

THE TIMES

Saudis order British Ambassador to leave

Arabia yesterday ordered the expulsion of its Ambassador and refused to appoint a Saudi Ambassador to London in view of the television showing of the film *"A Princess in a Princess"*. The news was received with dismay. It was feared that any against British trade which might follow have a substantial effect.

ears of retaliation over trade

Spanier Correspondent

Mr Craig, British Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, was in London yesterday in retaliation showing of the film *"A Princess in a Princess"* on ATV. Summoned to the Ministry in Riyadh at informed by Prince Faisal, the Foreign that his presence was required. He will London shortly. At time Prince Saud said that the appointment new Saudi ambassador will nor now go

ws of Mr Craig's was received in with dismay. "It is fortunate that Anglo-Saxons should have by a film for British Government way responsible and could not prevent on British television," a Foreign said.

of the present con- the Gulf area it is important that states should keep in touch. We hope it is possible to restore relative normal level as

e in London is that leisure will be limited by the expulsion of the and that diplomatic will be able to contact they can, despite

luck is uncertain, fact that Lord Carter, Foreign Secretary, had a considerable in Riyadh, when he re-

Prince Saud, and he was becoming a high priority with Saudi Arabia. Mr Craig is one of the Foreign Office's most experienced Arabists makes his a particular loss.

Lord Carter had be could to explain government does not media in Britain, it at the Saudi authori- disposed to accept that the Government prevent the film in.

tanding ip?

other expression of long feeling was in London, but Sir not know how severe before going to the ministry yesterday. It is to know if, other in the trade or field may be contented Riyadh, or whether of the British is designed as a warning to other

ii Charge d'Affaires issued a statement his sincere hope for of Anglo-Saudi re- a more solid basis our conviction of the importance of the crests will bind the ties between the and the friendship of peoples".

statement also ex- gret over what was

Flammability draft rules criticized

Draft regulations on the flammability of furniture upholstery which the Government hopes will protect the public from fires in their homes would make no significant difference, fire prevention experts said. An open flame test has been dropped after protests by furniture manufacturers

Page 3

Railways warning

British Rail faced progressive and inevitable decline unless the Government agreed to more generous and flexible financial arrangements. Sir Peter Parker, chairman, said in succeeding in meeting cash limits year by year it was signing its death warrant. Prospects had never been better, but a contraction might be forced in an expending market.

Page 4

Mr Gromyko in Paris

Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, is holding talks in Paris with his opposite number, M. Jean Francois-Poncet. It is his first visit to a Western capital since the invasion of Afghanistan. There has been no agreement on what should be the main item on the agenda.

Page 4

EEC budget optimism shattered by France

From Michael Hornby Brussels, April 23.

The recent mood of optimism over the changes of an early settlement of Britain's budget dispute with the EEC was shattered here today by a warning from France that without prior agreement on farm prices no deal on the budget could be concluded at next week's EEC summit meeting.

In a statement issued in Paris, President Giscard d'Estaing said that progress this week on fixing the level of this year's farm prices would have to be such that heads of government would need to do no more than give their "political confirmation" to what had been agreed.

This statement of the French terms for a budget settlement was generally ill-received by EEC agriculture ministers, who have been meeting here since the beginning of the week.

Mr Peter Walker, the British Agriculture Minister, was openly contemptuous of the French move, and said that he and his colleagues had no intention of being dictated to by the French President. "The French terms deserve to be ignored," he added.

"We do not need this kind of pressure," Signor Giovanni Marcora, the Italian minister and chairman of the meeting, said.

Mr Walker said that Britain was still insisting that there should be no price increases this year for milk, sugar and wine, which are in chronic surplus, and for other products no price rises higher on average than the 2.4 per cent proposed by the European Commission.

The agriculture ministers had before them a draft statement, proposed by the Commission, of the general principles that should govern this year's farm price settlement. It was difficult, however, to see how this could possibly represent the kind of progress towards agreement demanded by the French.

Today's developments leave no doubt that Mrs Margaret Thatcher will come under huge pressure from the French to accept any Saudi move on British exports would be substantial (John Lawless writes).

British companies have been increasing their efforts in the Middle East's most important market and Mr Craig was a strong influence in the sales drive, urging firms to "make 1980 the year of commitment, both in terms of money and manpower".

Increase in sales from Britain

His efforts resulted in Britain having the largest representation at the Middle East construction exhibition held in Jiddah in January with 130 firms attending, and his withdrawal comes three weeks before the Saudi Government is to unveil details of a new five-year economic development plan, under which it is expected to spend £120,000m.

This plan is expected to show an increased emphasis on the kind of business in which British companies have done well recently, such as the supply of equipment for newly-constructed plant. The trend is expected to be away from big construction projects.

In spite of this, sales to Saudi Arabia from Britain increased last year to £593m, up from £375m in 1978 and £576m in 1977.

The bulk of sales have fallen under the heading of machinery and transport equipment, worth £490m in 1979, followed by general manufacturers, worth £134m last year. Chemical sales were worth £80m and food £45m.

Saudi Arabia has shown every indication of becoming the first Middle East market to number among Britain's top 10 overseas customers in the next two years. It has risen from seventeenth position in 1977, to fourteenth in 1978 and to eleventh last year.

The substantial increases in trade are not the only important factor, for Saudi Arabia has been spending thousands of millions of its petrodollars to promote the cause of Islam and defeat the spread of communism in other developing countries.

The Saudi influence, for example, had meant that while traditional booming markets in the Middle East have not been developing as rapidly of late, others such as North Yemen have started to number among important sales areas for European exporters.

Obituary, page 18

CBI faces turmoil, page 19

Leading article, page 17

HOME NEWS

BL offers a grading appeals panel under independent chairman to try to solve the Jaguar disputeBy Clifford Webb
Industrial Correspondent

BL yesterday offered to set up a joint union-management appeals panel under an independent chairman to investigate the dispute over the downgrading of assembly workers that has halted production at Jaguar for a fortnight.

About 3,000 of the 6,500 Jaguar workers originally voted the strike by 18,563 BL employees protesting at the imposition of the company's controversial pay and working conditions package. That strike collapsed two days ago after the transport union decided to withdraw its official backing.

The Jaguar men did not return to work because of the dispute over the downgrading of assembly workers who traditionally had been paid on a par with skilled men.

The management's offer last night comes after a day of confused meetings at Jaguar, starting with a mass meeting in the morning. Shop stewards refused to take a vote and the men

drifted away to hold sectional meetings.

By late afternoon it appeared that about 1,600 employees, almost all of them from the assembly plant at Browns Lane, Coventry, had decided to stay out.

Mr Michael Beasley, Jaguar's manufacturing director, said last night: "I cannot believe that those who voted to stay out really want to see Jaguar fail. In the interests of everyone at Jaguar I urge them to report for work tomorrow."

Those who decided to stay on strike should know they are putting all jobs at Jaguar at risk, not just their own. I recognize that the sense of grievance over grade slotting is held genuinely."

BL Cars management has offered that the final-stage grade appeals panel, which it is anxious to establish as soon as possible by agreement with the trade unions, may be chaired by an independent person. I believe that this panel could be set up quickly and as

a matter of priority examine the grading grievances at Jaguar and come up with authoritative conclusions," Mr Beasley said.

On that basis he was recalling immediately 1,600 workers laid off and appealing to the remainder to report in the morning.

Dismissal threat: Mr Ray Horrocks, BL managing director, last night threatened to dismiss the 1,600 men still on strike at Jaguar if they are not back at work by next Monday (The Press Association reports).

He said that union officials

will be given a last chance to persuade the men at the two Coventry plants to end their strike.

The company very much hopes that those few remaining on strike will follow the responsible lead set by the unions.

However, if those employees on strike have not returned to work by Monday, April 28, the company will have exhausted every avenue and will have no option but to regard them as being dismissed."

Mr Chapple criticized for attitude to May 14

By David Felton

Labour Reporter

Mr Frank Chapple, the electrician union's leader was sharply criticized at a meeting of the TUC General Council yesterday for failing to urge his 420,000 members to support the May 14 day of action against government policies.

TUC leaders noted that the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union, was one of two unions which had not given full support to the day of action.

Mr Len Murray, TUC General Secretary, said yesterday there was criticism of Mr Chapple's recent statements by union leaders on the General Council.

Mr Chapple has said that it will be left to individual members to decide whether to take action.

Mr Murray said that a policy statement setting out the TUC's reasons for calling the action was supported unanimously.

The electricians' union was not represented at the meeting because Mr Chapple was ill.

The other union not to give backing to the union protest is the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers. Mr Murray said he expected that members of every union in the country would be taking part.

The policy statement approved by the general council said: "It is the right and the duty of trade unionists to say loud and clear that the simplistic policies of the Government will not work to bring forcefully to the attention of the public why this is so and to urge the need for the nation to go forward again in a spirit of cooperation."

Mr Murray said: "We shall measure the success of the action over a period of time by the impact it has on public thinking and on government policies. This is not the walls of Jericho falling down. It is part of a wide ranging and continuing campaign to expose the dangers and irrelevancies of the Government's policies in the economic, social and industrial relations fields and to emphasize that there is a genuine, positive and constructive alternative policy."

The TUC yesterday published a pamphlet to coincide with the build-up to May 14 which discusses "the threat to industry and the welfare state".

The national executive committee, after an intense debate, withdrew from a position which would commit a future Labour government to full employment in its first term of office to one which made full employment a top priority.

On defence, the party leadership appeared to emerge less tethered to a party policy opposing the deployment of cruise missiles in Britain and a replacement for Polaris, than many executive members would like.

The argument was countered by, among others, Mr Neil Kinnock, shadow spokesman on education, Mrs Judith Hart and Miss Joan Lester. Although they expressed agreement with the sentiments, they said it would be unrealistic to commit a future Labour government to full employment in such a short time when no one knew what unemployment would be when Labour returned to office.

The economic and industrial position, with the development of new technology, was vastly different from that which had faced the post-war Labour administration.

Drafting changes, therefore, have moved the party away from "will" and "aim towards" full employment in Labour's first term, to the "resolution and maintenance of full employment".

The nuclear debate was seen by some to leave the Shadow Cabinet off the hook. The statement reiterated party policy, laid down in 1974, renouncing any move towards the production of a new generation of nuclear weapons or a successor to the Polaris nuclear force.



Meeting the public for the first time at London Zoo is Tiddly Wink, a brown bear cub, with her mother, Tumble.

Labour settles policy on jobs and defence

By Michael Hatfield

Political Reporter

Labour party policy-makers yesterday papered over the cracks on unemployment and defence policy in order to meet the deadline for the special party conference to be held at the end of next month.

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Unemployment was seen by many to be an essential issue. Mr Norman Atkinson, party treasurer, argued that a Labour Government should be committed to bringing about full employment in its first term, went so far as saying that Hitler had promised full employment and had won the support of working people.

Mr Wedgwood Benn, support-

ing the demand for a strong line, said that the Attlee Government had succeeded in achieving full employment even though millions of people were leaving the forces and seeking jobs.

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Whips dismiss claim of Tory voting rebel

By Our Political Staff

The leaders of the Conservative revolt on the Employment Bill in the Commons on Thursday claimed yesterday that the voting figures did not completely reflect the number of Tory backbenchers who are critical of the Government's attitude to compulsory trade union ballots.

They pointed out that, in addition to the 45 Conservatives who supported the amendment to introduce such ballots when 15 per cent of a work force demands one, there must have been many abstentions.

On their arithmetic, there were 49 Conservatives who did not vote. They conceded that there must have been some Ministers and MPs delegated to the Council of Europe who were paired, but they reckoned that about 30 deliberately abstained.

That would take the number of dissenters nearer a hundred, the number who signed an early-day motion supporting compulsory ballots a few weeks ago.

The Government Whips dismissed the rebels' claims last night. They pointed out that 15 Conservatives had voted against the amendment in the Council of Europe, and there were at least 15 others who were absent with permission. Those included ministers abroad, the duty minister in Northern Ireland, delegates to the North Atlantic Assembly, and some absent through sickness or family bereavement.

Mr Robert Adley, Conservative MP for Christchurch and Lympstone, speaking in London last night, described the rebels as "a bunch of enthusiastic industrial relations amateurs".

He said that of the 45 Conservative MPs who rebelled, 30 were not in Parliament in 1971 and did not live through the debates on Mr Edward Heath's Industrial Relations Bill.

Mr John Gorst (Hendon N), Mr Michael (Bridgwater), Mr Peter (Dover S), Mr Denis (Fife), Mr Robert (Borough of Fylde), Mr George (Relatives), Mr John Gorst (Hendon N).

Mr Hawley (The Wrekin), Mr Bowes (Norfolk N), Mr Lennox-Boyd (Merton L), Mr John I (Harrower, Uxbridge), Mr Marland (Gloucestershire), Mr Anthony (Norfolk), Mr Robert (Clydebank), Mr Ferguson (Ayrshire), Mr Gervase Morgan (Dent), Mr Christopher Murphy (West Hartlepool), Mr David (Banff), Mr Gerard Nevin (West Belfast), Mr Robert (Aldridge-Brownhills), Mr Temple-Morris (Leamington Spa), Mr John Townsend (Bridgwater), Mr Peter Walker (Perth), Mr Derek (Berkshire E), Mr William (Macclesfield), Mr Peter (Trelawny), Mr John Gorst (Hendon N).

The result of this bill, the 1980 version of the monetarist, over the past 12 months, is visible for all: the high rate of inflation that has

been doubled in 12 months, the balance of payments looks like being nearly this year; and we are the Government that has four years of uninterrupted decline in our manufacturing and investment

output, by 5 per cent.

Because of that change, of course, the House of Commons was seeing revolts from the right wing of the Tory party, the hard men of provos, who had their day yesterday. Employment Bill, and from the "wags" who the rebels would be equally courageous, though he doubted it.

"All this is to be out a time when, even in the North Sea oil and gas areas, Government £4,000 revenue, helping our exports, by £3,000 increasing our gross product, the value of domestic output, by 5 per cent.

They upheld the higher standards of the British service," he added.

Mr Weigh said: "I am pleased to get the baton of my authority, and that have been praised in the

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*"My new car
laps Silverstone
almost as fast as
my old one."*



Stirling Moss once raced a Maserati 250F.
Now he races an Audi 80.
The difference in lap times is approximately
3½ seconds.

Of course, this particular Audi 80 isn't an
entirely standard model. It has harder suspension,
up-rated performance, a functional rather than
luxurious interior.

But as Stirling pointed out: "If ever a standard
car had all the makings of a race winner, it is the
Audi 80 GLE I drive every day."

As you'd expect, then, the GLE is a fast car.
0-60mph takes a mere 9.2 seconds. Top speed
is a very impressive 113mph.

Equally important, the car was built to handle
this performance.

Its wide track, long wheelbase and indepen-
dent suspension combine to give exceptional
roadholding and stability.

Built in, too, are such invaluable safety
features as dual circuit braking and self-stabilising

steering. And since the car was designed
to be a luxury saloon and not a racing car, it is also
quiet, roomy and very well appointed.

If you call and see your local Audi dealer,
he'll be delighted to let you test drive the
Audi 80 GLE (or indeed the LS or GLS version).

At which point, you will also discover what
excellent value our GLE represents.

It costs £7,095 inc. VAT.

The racing version would cost around three
times that figure.

Whereas the owner of the Maserati will only
consider offers in excess of £100,000.

**The new Audi 80.
The car for now.**



HOME NEWS

raft regulations on upholstery e safety would make real difference, experts say

in Young
er Affairs
sident

regulations on the safety of furniture upholstery, which the Government will protect the upholstery materials available in Britain could pass it.

after protests from furniture manufacturers.

The Department of Trade said that the match test was abandoned because not enough of the upholstery materials available in Britain could pass it.

The company of Albright and Wilson, whose fire prevention experts were involved in the development of the two standard tests which were proposed originally, by writing to the department and to MPs, saying that without a match test there would be no change in the flammability of most furniture on sale after the introduction of a compulsory cigarette test. The company said that reliance on the smouldering cigarette test was based on statistics from the United States which were inapplicable to thermoplastic upholstery fabrics more commonly used in the United Kingdom.

It seemed that the introduction of the regulations as drafted would increase further the use of thermoplastic fabrics which resisted smouldering ignition, but burnt or

melted when exposed to an open flame.

The Fire Brigades Union is even more dismissive of the regulations' safety effects.

Michael Fordham, the union's national officer, said: "We regarded the regulations as inadequate even before the open flame test was abandoned. Only 15 per cent of deaths in home fires result from fires caused by smokers' materials.

"We believe that only a complete ban on the use of polyurethane foam inside furniture will make any real difference."

The regulations would make no difference to additional cushions used on furniture, loose covers, second-hand furniture, or the flammability of furniture when upholstery covers were split, Mr Fordham said.

According to Home Office statistics there are usually about 3,500 fires a year in which upholstery fabrics are the first materials ignited. In 1976 there were 2,164 such fires, 1,095 of which were caused by smokers' materials.

Patient in protest over NHS delay

By Annabel Ferriman
Health Services Correspondent

A National Health Service patient who was given a £4,000 hip operation in West Germany at the expense of the NHS is to go on hunger strike from today in protest over the lack of follow-up treatment since coming back to Britain.

Mr Pierre Giles, aged 49, a manager from Fulham, London, who was allowed to have the operation in Germany because of the long waiting lists for it in Britain, was told by the German doctors that the operation was a success.

But they said that when he got back to Britain he had to have extensive physiotherapy. Mr Giles wrote to the Charing Cross Hospital from the clinic in Mainz in February requesting an appointment.

The hospital replied that the first appointment they could offer with an orthopaedic surgeon would be in March, 1981, and that Mr Giles could not have physiotherapy without seeing the surgeon first.

Mr Giles said yesterday: "Meanwhile the doctors in Germany are telling me that all the good work they have done is being undone by the lack of therapy."

He said: "I sent a telegram to the area medical officer, the local community health council and others last week asking for an earlier appointment, and said that if nothing happened by today I would go on hunger strike. No earlier appointment has been forthcoming."

The North West Regional Health Authority, which controls the Charing Cross Hospital, said that Mr Giles had not been refused physiotherapy. He had been told he will have to wait some time for it. "This is not unusual in orthopaedic cases which are not considered urgent."

Liability had been contested between Mr Barton and Mr Whitaker, of Cambridge Road, Hitchin, at a High Court hearing last June, when Mr Barton was found to be at fault.

Mr Mullen, now aged 20, of Brook Drive, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, was in court yesterday when Mr Seinton Thomas QC, his counsel, told Mr Justice Peter Paine that he would "never be able to lead any life

but it will exceed

the 25 miles of sky Flash, carried a F4 fighter.

Aerospace said the old have enhanced e against manoeuvr- and greater resist- electronic counter-

Aerospace also an- yesterday, the of an initial joint conjunction with Marcel Dassault Aviation, of France, arschnitt - Bolkow - West Germany, to European combat air- the differing future the British, French, German air forces.

and that Mrs Gibson's subse-

quent conviction on a speeding summons was invalid.

Mrs Gibson, of Merton Forest Farm, Worksop, Nottinghamshire, was accused of breaking a speed limit by driving at 41 mph. She had driven away after her conversation with the policeman, thinking she would receive no more than a caution.

Lord Justice Donaldson and Mr Justice Bristow dismissed a police appeal against a decision of Derby Crown Court quashing her conviction by Chesterfield magistrates.

The law required a motorist to be warned of intended prosecution, not merely to have a warning addressed to him, Lord Justice Donaldson said.

The question of whether or not a warning got through was for courts to decide on the evidence, and it was open to a driver to prove, if he could, that he did not understand or hear the warning.

Mr Justice Bristow agreed: "In my judgment any warning given must get through to the person concerned".

Mrs Gibson was not present or represented at yesterday's hearing in London.

The report, *Scor on the Landscape*, states: "It was not unusual for some farmers to consider the soil to be so badly damaged as a result of open-casting that its previous arable crop yield is reduced by roughly half after a site has been excavated, then restored. Findings showed that there may be drainage difficulties and deterioration in the quality of the top soil."

In one area we were informed that gulls would not follow the plough where it passed from undisturbed to open-casted land, as apparently they had learnt it was fruitless to search for food beyond the junction of the two. The disturbance to the structure and drainage of the soil in this area appeared to have precluded recolonisation by worms over a 15-year period, and conversely the absence of worms militates against improvement of the structure and drainage."

The council, which is chaired by Lord Craigton, recommends much more research into sites before they are excavated as well as more research into how agricultural land can be restored afterwards. At present there is an almost total lack of research or forward planning. The success of restoration can only be judged if there is full knowledge of the "before and after" characteristics of the land.



Photograph by Harry Kerr

A breath of country air: Children from Hillbrook Primary School, Tooting, London, feeding pigs at the Out of Town Centre at Beaulieu, near Southampton, a joint venture by Southern Television and the Inner London Education Authority, which open officially tomorrow. London children will use the centre for half the year.

V missile roves defence

Reed
spondent
craft are to be fitted
improved version of the
air-to-air missile as
a £75m development
placed with the
aerospace Dynamics
the Ministry of

Flash Mark II will
raft operating in
Britain, particularly
the F2, due to come
in the middle 1980s.
ance of interception,
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Agreed award of £225,000 for brain-damaged man

Allan Mullen, whose life was said to have been wrecked at 16 by crippling road-crash injuries, was awarded £225,000

outside some form of sheltered environment".

The damages, and costs, were awarded against Mr Terence Barton, of Broadwater Crescent, Stevenage, the driver of a car in which Mr Mullen was a passenger. It was in collision with Mr Paul Whitaker, a motor cyclist, at Hitchin, Hertfordshire.

Liability had been contested between Mr Barton and Mr Whitaker, of Cambridge Road, Hitchin, at a High Court hearing last June, when Mr Barton was found to be at fault.

Mr Mullen, now aged 20, of Brook Drive, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, was in court yesterday when Mr Seinton Thomas QC, his counsel, told Mr Justice Peter Paine that he would "never be able to lead any life

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Coal board is criticized for allegedly denuding country by open mining

By Lucy Hodges

Serious criticism of the way the National Coal Board is allegedly denuding the countryside through open-cast mining was published yesterday by a conservation group.

After a two-year survey, a working party commissioned by the Council for Environmental Conservation, estimates that crop yield is reduced by roughly half after a site has been excavated, then restored. Findings showed that there may be drainage difficulties and deterioration in the quality of the top soil.

The report, *Scor on the Landscape*, states: "It was not unusual for some farmers to consider the soil to be so badly damaged as a result of open-casting that its previous arable

cropping could not be resumed, and a change to animal husbandry was necessitated".

Grass can also be affected. In one case a farmer said he had to keep his animals indoors six weeks later in the spring and six weeks earlier in the autumn than before his land was excavated. That happened 20 years ago.

"The whole viability of farms

can be affected by open-cast mining", the group of 11 environmental experts says. Evidence comes not only from plant growth but also from the worm population.

In one area we were informed that gulls would not follow the plough where it passed from undisturbed to open-casted land, as apparently they had learnt it was fruitless to search for food beyond the junction of the two. The disturbance to the structure and drainage of the soil in this area appeared to have precluded recolonisation by worms over a 15-year period, and conversely the absence of worms militates against improvement of the structure and drainage."

The council, which is chaired by Lord Craigton, recommends much more research into sites before they are excavated as well as more research into how agricultural land can be restored afterwards. At present there is an almost total lack of research or forward planning. The success of restoration can only be judged if there is full knowledge of the "before and after" characteristics of the land.

Union to fight dismissal of woman teacher

From Our Correspondent

The National Union of Teachers is fighting the decision to dismiss without notice Mrs Eileen Crosbie for refusing to teach a nursery class of 38 because she thought it was too large to control.

A Nottinghamshire County Council disciplinary panel agreed by majority that Mrs Crosbie's action was a breach of contract.

Yesterday, the teachers' union said that it would ask an industrial tribunal for her reinstatement. Meanwhile, it would continue to pay her salary.

Mrs Crosbie, aged 36, was suspended from her post at the Robert Mellors Primary School, at Arnold, Nottingham, in January. Her dismissal was announced on Tuesday.

She said yesterday: "I am absolutely shattered by the decision. I hope the union will continue to support me. I am unable to apply for a teaching post outside Nottinghamshire because of family commitments."

Eight of Mrs Crosbie's colleagues at the school will go on strike from today in an attempt to have her reinstated.

The full programme for the conference is:-

Thursday 15 May

2.15 - 2.30 Introduction by the Chairman of the Association.

2.20 - 3.30 A.G.M. and brief reports from Committee Chairmen

3.30 - 4.00 Afternoon Tea

4.00 - 5.00 The Treatment of Early Leavers

Speaker: Mr K Cole

4.00 - 5.00 Overseas Investments for Smaller Pension Funds.

Speaker: Mr D Edwards

7.30 - 8.30 Chairman's Reception in the Metropole Hotel.

8.30 onwards Dinner in Conference Hotels

Friday 16 May

9.15 - 10.30 The Provision of Information to Members — a Discussion on the NAPF Proposals.

Introduced by: Mr K M McElveen.

10.30 - 11.00 Morning Coffee

11.00 - 12.15 Pension Funds and the City.

Speaker: Mr Hon. Denzil Davies MP

12.15 - 2.30 Lunch in the Metropole and Bedford Hotels.

2.30 - 3.45 Mini Computers and Microprocessors

Speaker: Mr J Turnbull

3.45 - 4.15 Afternoon Tea

4.15 - 5.30 Direction of Investment — Overseas Experience

Speaker: Mr T Hayes

4.15 - 5.30 The Impact of Europe on UK Pensions

Speaker: Mr D E Boden

Evening Alternative Social Programme:

A Play in the Theatre Royal, Brighton.

A Rod McKuen Concert in the Dome, Brighton.

A Sussex Feast, Drusillas, Alfriston.

Regency Evening, The Old Ship Hotel, Brighton.

Dinner in the Metropole Hotel.

Saturday 17 May

9.15 - 10.30 Member Participation — A Discussion on the NAPF Proposals

Introduced by Mr J M Young

10.30 - 11.00 Morning Coffee

11.00 - 12.15 Future Prospects for the Stock Exchange

Speaker: Mr Nicholas Goodison

7.30 for 8.00 Banquet in The Metropole Hotel.

DINNER DANCES IN THE METROPOLE HOTEL AND DUDLEY HOTEL

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AS WE enter the 1980s the National Association of Pension Funds has taken "Developments for a Decade" as its theme for this year's annual conference. Information to members, Overseas Investment, the Impact of the Microprocessors, the Influence of Europe on UK Pensions, and many other

relevant and important topics will be discussed.

As always, the quality of the speakers and the ensuing discussion will be of vital interest to those concerned with the pensions industry.

The National Association of Pension Funds is a unique body embracing every type of pension

scheme, insured and privately invested, and in both public and private sectors of industry.

As a national association it makes

WEST EUROPE

Mr Gromyko's Paris talks likely to show that French attitude over Soviet policy has hardened

By Charles Hargrove

Paris, April 23
Never since General de Gaulle proclaimed the policy of "detente, entente, and cooperation" between East and West has a high-level Franco-Soviet meeting taken place under more gloomy auspices. The talks which Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, is having in Paris today and tomorrow with his French opposite number, M. Jean-Pierre Poncet, are certain to be both difficult and unproductive.

Almost their only virtue, in French eyes, is that they are taking place at all and that is Mr Gromyko's first visit to the Western capital since the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. But there is not even agreement on what should be the main item on the agenda. The contacts which have been taking place over the last four months between the two governments about the Soviet intervention have all proved completely negative. They began with representations by the French Ambassador to Paris at the end of December and were followed by M. Poncet's serious warning to the Soviet Ambassador in Moscow in January, the visit of Georgi Korniyenko, the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, to Paris three weeks ago, and the abortive mission of the Soviet Secretary-General and political director

of the Quai d'Orsay at the beginning of March. Mr Gromyko is not expected to make the least gesture or show the slightest sign of "give" on the withdrawal of Soviet forces in response to repeated French warnings. On the contrary, having dismissed the Afghan affair as a regional problem of Soviet security which must not impinge on East-West relations and having repeated the arguments which the Soviet troops in Afghanistan will withdraw when the causes of their intervention have ceased" Mr Gromyko will insist on talking about detente and the Madrid conference next autumn to take stock of the implementation of the Helsinki agreements.

His object in coming to Paris is quite clear. It is to insist that the "privileged relations" between Paris and Moscow are unimpaired thanks, in the words of the Soviet news agency Novosti to the "responsible behaviour" of the French Government in the Afghan crisis.

It is also to exploit the differences between Paris and Washington on the significance of detente of both the Afghan and Iranian crises and to the effectiveness of sanctions. But Mr Gromyko runs the risk of finding himself seriously out of step with the thinking of the French Government on both Afghanistan and Iran. There has been a distinct softening of the French attitude

Reopening of Broglie case demanded by prosecution

By Our Own Correspondent
Paris, April 23
The chambre d'accusation of the Court of Appeal has given itself until Friday to decide whether the judicial investigation into the Broglie affair should be reopened. The chief public prosecutor, and the 14 of the defendants, are still sitting in the court today, demanding the reopening of the case.

At the same time, the parliamentary aspect of the affair is gaining momentum. The parties represented in the National Assembly have appointed their representatives to the special commission of 15 members which will be officially set tomorrow to decide whether there are grounds for the indictment before the High Court of Justice of M. Michel Poniatski, who was Minister of the Interior at the time of the assassination of Prince Jean-Broglie.

The two key posts on the commission, that of president of the rapporteur, will go to members of the government party, a Gaullist and a Gaullist respectively. M. Jean Foyer, a former minister of Justice, and chairman of the legal committee of the Assembly, who is also a member of the commission, said that its role was comparable to that of the office of public prosecutions. It would decide, on the basis of the Gaullist Party resolution to impeach M. Poniatski, whether there were grounds for prosecution.

M. Poniatski has decided to go ahead with his threatened actions for libel against the Socialist and Communist deputies.

The immunity from legal prosecution guaranteed to members of Parliament by the constitution was not designed "to enable them to commit offences with impunity which would be contrary to democratic principles, but only to guarantee the freedom and independence of parliamentary debates and votes", he declared today.

Oslo and Moscow fail to agree over sea boundary

By Michael Binyon
Stockholm, April 23
A Norwegian delegation returned home tonight after a fifth round of negotiations with the Russians on the vexed question of how to divide the continental shelf of the Barents Sea.

Neither side gave any ground during the talks, which began Friday, though the Norwegians were cautiously optimistic that the Soviet Union was not about to make a unilateral declaration. The two sides have agreed to continue their talks in Oslo, probably in the autumn. The dispute is over a vast area of sea, about 100,000 square miles in the far north which is rich in fish and is believed to contain large

Bombs go off as reply to French plans for Corsica

By Ian Murray
Paris, April 23
The tiny Front de Libération Nationale de la Corse (FLNC) last night expressed its disapproval of new measures announced by the Government to tidy up Corsica in what is becoming the traditional manner. It set off 11 bombs—six in Corsica, two in Nice and three in the island itself.

The measures, covering improvements in transport, education, industrial investment and cultural development, were unveiled after a meeting between Corsican MPs and President Giscard d'Estaing. The FLNC view all such moves as being more than further proof of French colonialism on the island.

Most of last night's bombs were timed to go off just after midnight. One of them, at an office of the Poste, France, resulted in three people being slightly injured by the blast.

Police estimate that there are about 20 active members of the FLNC, including 43 in those serving terms of up to 10 years for their part in terrorist attacks.

Nevertheless this small group, who are well armed with modern French and American weapons, have consistently succeeded in making an impact by



Passengers pick their way through rubbish scattered in Saint Lazare underground station in Paris where 900 Métro cleaners walked out 31 days ago. There have been calls to use the Army as attitudes harden, with considerable support being shown for the cleaners.

Giscard farm prices warning for EEC

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, April 23

President Giscard d'Estaing issued a sharp warning to France's partners in the European Community today on the fixing of new farm prices. If substantial progress were not achieved at the current meeting in Brussels of ministers of agriculture, the European summit next week would not be in a position to take decisions on all the pending issues in the EEC, and clearly not on the subject of Britain's budget contribution.

The emphasis placed by the President at the Council of Ministers meeting this morning on the link between agricultural prices and Britain's budget contribution, and to a lesser extent sheep meat and fish, on which the French Government believes there is no serious obstacle to a compromise, is itself nothing new.

Of Britain and the other member countries show some readiness to meet France part of the way on the increase in farm prices the French Government will be more receptive to British demands over the Community budget. The average 2.4 per cent price increase proposed by the Commission is regarded here as quite unacceptable. France has been insisting on an average price increase of between 7.5 and 8.5 per cent, including the recent devaluation of the franc of 3.5 per cent. This is what the Comité des agriculteurs of the Nine has been pressing for.

The French President's warning was issued after the Cabinet had heard a report by M Pierre

Mehaignerie, the Minister of Agriculture, on the lack of progress so far in the Brussels negotiations, and had expressed his "serious concern" on the way it was going.

He emphasized that it was a clear rejection of the British and West German proposal that the discussion must be mainly advanced, for the heads of government merely to need to give political sanction to the agreement outlined by the technical ministers.

M Giscard d'Estaing has said more than once that the true functions of the European summit are being gradually distorted and that it has been gradually turned from an organ of long-term political reflection and decision into an appeal jurisdiction for settling more mundane issues upon which the Council of Ministers has been unable to agree.

What the President does not want is for the heads of government to indulge in an all night marathon over the price of milk.

It is the second occasion on which M Giscard d'Estaing has issued a summons about the coming European summit. On March 12 he told the European Commission that it must put forward proposals for solving the problem of Britain's budget contributions, otherwise they could not be considered by the heads of government.

The French Government objected to the tabling by Mr Roy Jenkins, President of the European Commission, in Dublin at the last minute of proposals the Commission had not even agreed.



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HOME OVERSEAS

Only collapse of his presidency could now deprive Mr Carter of Democratic nomination

Bri give Senator Kennedy left with scant hopes after setback in Pennsylvania

From Patrick Brown
Washington, April 23

President Carter and Senator Edward Kennedy finished the Democratic presidential primary in Pennsylvania yesterday in a dead heat, each winning 46 per cent of the vote. In the Republican primary, Mr George Bush beat Mr Ronald Reagan by 53 per cent to 46 per cent.

The result is a severe disappointment for Senator Kennedy, who had hoped to beat Mr Carter soundly and demonstrate that the President had lost control of the populous north-eastern states, which are Democratic candidate must carry if he is to win a presidential election.

The two will divide equally Pennsylvania's 185 delegates to the Democratic convention. Mr Kennedy won a surprise victory in caucuses in Vermont yesterday, but that will bring him no more than a dozen delegates.

Missouri democrats held their local caucuses yesterday—the

first meetings of a four-stage process that will elect 77 delegates—and Mr Carter's supporters won a large majority. Mr Kennedy will be lucky to pick up more than a handful of delegates from Missouri, and Mr Carter, therefore, won far more delegates yesterday than Mr Kennedy did.

The President now controls 1,097 delegates, counting those chosen in Pennsylvania but not those he will eventually gather from Missouri, to Mr Kennedy's 573. He needs 1,666 to win the nomination.

Despite his victory yesterday, Mr Bush dropped still further behind Mr Reagan in the race for the Republican

nomination. Mr Bush won the "popularity contest" but Mr Reagan picked up most of the delegates. Mr Reagan has about 670 delegates for the nomination. Mr Bush has fewer than 150 with others accounting for a further 180 or so.

Mr Reagan will probably come out of that set of primaries within a hundred delegates of victory and with his own base, California, and its 168 delegates, virtually guaranteed him.

Mr Bush's surprisingly solid victory in the Pennsylvania "popularity poll" means that Mr Reagan's formal victory will be postponed to the Texas primary.

Mr Bush disagrees, of course, with the results in Pennsylvania. Every time we win we move much closer to being able to do something about inflation, the Carter Administration's foreign policy and energy."

At noon today, with 96 per cent of the polling stations' votes counted, the results of the Pennsylvania primaries were:

Democrats Carter 701,334 votes, 46 per cent Kennedy 709,157 votes, 46 per cent.

Republicans Bush 584,000 votes, 53 per cent Reagan 497,652 votes, 46 per cent.

West German Government tells athletes to boycott Olympics

From Patricia Clough
London, April 23

The West German Government today formally recommended its athletes to boycott the Moscow Olympic Games and appealed to their sense of civic responsibility.

It made it clear that the government subsidies would not be withdrawn if the National Olympic Committee should fail to comply, but Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, said in Parliament that there would be no question of financing trips by individuals who defied the NOC.

The Bundestag later approved the boycott recommendation by 466 votes to eight with nine abstentions. A group of Social Democrat deputies opposed it in the belief that it would make the international situation worse, not better.

The NOC will make its decision on May 15 and its leading figures are deeply divided. A weekly illustrated magazine which questioned just under half the 54 voting members claimed yesterday that the majority opposed boycott.

Candidates for the Olympic team voted overwhelmingly at the weekend in favour of going to Moscow, but there was no talk of defying the NOC decision.

Herr Schmidt told Parliament that the Government had made the decision with deep regret and a heavy heart but it was unavoidable.

The Government had reportedly said it was up to the Soviet Union to create the con-

ditions for participation by withdrawing its troops from Afghanistan. It had not done so and there were no signs that it would do so before the deadline for entries in the Olympic Games on May 24, he said.

Appealing to athletes to support the boycott he countered the argument that sport should not be mixed up with politics.

Since its beginnings in classical Greece, he said the Olympic idea had been inseparable from a "state of peace". Serious and continuing breaches of international law were not a suitable framework for peaceful sporting competition.

If one wishes to remain true to the Olympic idea and the basic principles of the Olympic charter then participation in the 1980 Games is out of the question.

The West Germans had been virtually committed to a boycott ever since President Carter's decision to do so if the USSR did not leave Afghanistan by February 20.

The announcement of this threat without prior consultation intensely irritated Bonn.

Athletes "betrayed": The Canadian Government's decision to support the American boycott drew bitter charges of "treason" from athletes and a row from one joint media input to compete as an individual.

This Government believes that the international situation brought about by Soviet aggression in Afghanistan makes it wholly inappropriate to hold the Olympics. Mr Mark MacGuigan, Secretary of State for External Affairs, said yesterday.

Attack on Islam denied by director of TV film

By Kenneth Godwin

Mr Anthony Thomas earned an international reputation as a documentary director, writer and producer long before he had the idea at a dinner party two years ago, for the controversial film *Death of a Princess*.

Two of his documentaries shared 10 awards—*The Good, the Bad and the Indifferent*, a study of the Church of England for Yorkshire Television, and *The South African Experience*, for ATV, which got him into trouble with Tate and Lyle.

He is unmarried, aged 39, and he was brought up in South Africa of Welsh parents. He is an exponent of the dramaticised documentary, sometimes known as "faction", a method of film-making which has been severely criticized for blurring the dividing line between truth and fiction.

As a man with a long and close association with Arabic countries, he explained in a recent interview his reasons for embarking on *Death of a Princess*: "I decided that he would have to appear like a 'hot brick' had he foreseen the difficulties ahead—but for using the technique of using actors rather than real characters."

Nobody had wanted to be identified. "To make the programme, I interviewed the real people, transcribed and scripted the conversations and allowed each person to read through his part and correct anything he felt I had got wrong. These words were then spoken by actors."

With an ordinary documentary the problem was that people failed to say important things when the camera was rolling. Using actors resulted in a more truthful picture because people lost their naturalness before the cameras.

Mr. Thomas had wanted to be identified. "To make the programme, I interviewed the real people, transcribed and scripted the conversations and allowed each person to read through his part and correct anything he felt I had got wrong. These words were then spoken by actors."

He had had several discussions with ATV executives about the film. He forecast then that there would "very likely be a row".

Washington shows signs of relief

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, April 23

There were indications of relief in Washington today that America's allies had at last agreed to impose economic and diplomatic sanctions against Iran.

An editorial in the Washington Post asked whether President Carter had "finally gotten through to the Europeans on the hostage crisis". The headline answered the question: "Acting like allies", it read, although the smaller print was not so straightforward.

But he did return, and the result was a three-part series called *The South African Experience*. The final programme, *Working for Britain*, showed African employees on a sugar estate formerly controlled by Tate and Lyle. The company obtained an injunction to prevent its showing but this was later lifted and the film was transmitted without the alterations Tate and Lyle had sought.

It was at this time, in 1977, that Mr Thomas wrote about the film-maker's responsibility in a letter to the Times.

At the age of 22, he made a film in defence of apartheid for the South African Government. The lesson from that, he said in his letter, was that a film-maker must not try to bring any preconception to a subject.

Yesterday it was emphasized that there had been no objection from either Egypt or the Lebanon, in which Thomas filmed for *Death of a Princess*: had it been what Saudi Arabia called "an unprincipled attack on Islam", neither would have accepted it.

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Miss Sue Farington, with a bandaged knee and crutches, leading Britons from Tehran on arrival at London airport.

Evacuated Britons want to return to life in Tehran

By Our Foreign Staff

The first Britons to leave Iran since Britain's decision to withdraw its embassy staff and facilities from Teheran flew into London yesterday. Almost all said they would like to return to Iran one day, and asked of general surprise at yesterday's unusual advice to leave. "It's a nice place and they are not anti-British at all", said Mr. Tony Hughes, a member of the embassy staff who returned with her husband.

An embassy secretary, Miss Sue Biggs, said: "I was hardly aware of any unrest, and I am keeping my fingers crossed. I shall go back to Tehran."

But the former Air Attaché, Group Captain John Horrell, said: "Anyone in touch with the recent situation could see it coming. My bags have been packed for the past few days".

Mr. David Baker, a director of the Decca navigation company, expressed fears for the safety of international shipping, including giant oil tankers which have relied on the Decca navigation aids in the Gulf for 20 years.

Journalists working in Iran were today warned to count the days

to their expulsion. Tony Allard, who writes from Teheran, said that the decision to withdraw its embassy staff and facilities from Teheran was made on Saturday.

The United Press International news agency was however told it would probably be extended for reasons that were not immediately clear. But its future has in doubt, the likelihood of further restrictions which the Guidance Ministry was said to be planning.

Officials have indicated that all foreign television crews, agencies and newspapers will be ordered not to send any of their coverage to the United States. For television stations and news agencies in particular this appears to be an almost insurmountable burden.

Announcement of the measures came just hours after Mr. Cyrus Vance, the American Secretary of State, arrived in Ottawa for talks with Mr. Mark MacGuigan, the Canadian External Affairs Minister, and Mr. Pierre Trudeau, the Prime Minister.

Oil companies will be told that it would be inappropriate for them to purchase Iranian oil in the current circumstances, and no new entry visas will be issued to Iranian students outside Canada.

Canada issues package of sanctions

From John Best
Ottawa, April 23

The Canadian Government announced a package of economic, diplomatic and other sanctions against Iran today in an effort to help speed the release of the American hostages held in Tehran.

Announcement of the measures came just hours after Mr. Cyrus Vance, the American Secretary of State, arrived in Ottawa for talks with Mr. Mark MacGuigan, the Canadian External Affairs Minister, and Mr. Pierre Trudeau, the Prime Minister.

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World View

by Arrigo Levi

Obstacles in path of unified allied policy

The ideas that Western foreign policy must become more and more a "collective exercise" involving all the main partners on equal terms, rather than remaining a fundamentally American responsibility, is widely supported in the "trilateral" world. But is it feasible?

It is easier to prove that America alone has increasing difficulties in facing the new challenges which arise from a changed strategic and economic balance of power between the West, the Soviet Union and the Third World, than to show convincingly how to associate America's partners with the decision-making process in the political field.

It remains, however, very strange that huge institutions should take care of coordinating the policies of the Western alliance in the military field (Nato) and in the economic field (the OECD, the Iaea, the IMF, and so on), while nothing of the sort exists in foreign policy. Traditional diplomacy, structured along national lines, cannot be compared in efficiency with the new international and even supranational organizations with their huge bureaucracies and powerful fact-finding systems.

If nothing similar exists in the field of pure foreign policy, this is due, to some extent, to the fact that the institution which was supposed to take care of political cooperation between the great powers—the United Nations—has become something totally different from what it was when it had only a few dozen members and was de facto dominated by the Western block. This is no longer "our club": we have been unable to invent a new one.

Failure to promote political cooperation

There have been of course a few attempts to do exactly that, but they have failed. At the end of the ill-fated Year of Europe, in 1972-1973, a lot of research went into a plan to start regular meetings three or four times a year between the main partners, which was just the way political cooperation had started among the Six. More recently (in the Cossiga-Carter meeting of last January) a plan was discussed to have "regular" meetings between the foreign ministers of America and the Nine (and occasionally Japan). Both these projects seem to have been abandoned.

There exists only some rather low-level coordination between America and the Nine, through the informal contacts which are usually established, before and after each meeting of the political cooperation committee of the European Union.

All these difficulties more than enough to convince anybody that any attempt to solve the problem of coordinating Western foreign policy into a genuinely "collective" exercise will remain very far from perfection. This is not a good reason to do nothing. The present situation is too dangerous to allow us to do that. We shall try another time to find some of the ideas which are now beginning to be examined in the West by all those worried about the disarray of the alliance.

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Heavy-handed police break up Coloureds' school ban

From Ray Kennedy
Johannesburg, April 23

Police mounted baton charges and fired tear gas today at Coloured school children who are boycotting classes in protest against unfair education policy. The protest, which was to have been held in an unoccupied black ghetto, Brigadier Ko Hamman, the divisional police chief for Soweto, said police had used tear gas and batons to break up the protest "cause public gatherings, except for religious or sporting meetings, were prohibited".

Student leaders have called for a week-long boycott of classes, and multi-national big political society like Euro with its parties, its par-

ties, its diversified interests and pressure groups.

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Iran to supply gas to Russia

Continued from page 1

Iran to supply gas to Russia

Mr Healey fears danger to oil supplies

By George Clark

I fear that any military action in the Gulf could lead to all the Arab countries shutting off the supply of oil to the West,"

No one who knew the problems that the oil-consuming countries were facing as a result of the increase in the price of oil by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) last year and the restriction on output, could contemplate the consequences of a stoppage in the flow of oil with equanimity.

Everyone must sympathize with the American people and President Carter in the present appalling situation. But Mr. Healey did not think that economic sanctions were likely to produce the desired result in ensuring the release of the American hostages in Tehran or improving the situation in Iran.

Mr. Healey never thought that

the day would come when he would agree with Mr. William Rees-Mogg, the Editor of *The Times*, but he thought that the leading article in *The Times* last Saturday on this subject represented the view of many, many people.

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OVERSEAS

80 feared dead as Philippines ferry sinks

Manila, April 23.—About 80 people were feared dead in the Philippines today after a ferry sank last night. It collided with an oil tanker barge and at least 200 were rescued. The number of dead is 96 and those rescued at 86.

The ferry, Don Juan, sank 12 minutes after the collision with the Tacloban City near the island of Mindoro. One survivor said the disaster happened so fast that passengers barely had time to save themselves.

Father Manuel Dueco said: "It was a miracle that so many of us were saved despite the short time between the collision and the sinking, plus the fact that it was dark."

Rescue officials said 19 people died and 60 were missing. Until we have the complete manifest, until we have recovered all the bodies, it is really hard to say how many are trapped in the sunken vessel. Lots of floating bodies have been seen in the disaster area."

Philippines and United States aircraft, backed by eight ships, which responded to emergency calls, spent the day searching the sea for survivors.

The coast guard said an inquiry into the causes of the disaster had been launched. It is a clear night and the sea is calm, according to the Don Juan's owners, the Negros Navigation Company.

The Don Juan, one of many ships plying the scattered Philippines archipelago of 7,000 islands, had just enough time to radio a mayday message which ended "abandon ship, abandon ship, abandon ship". Mr Jesse Castillo, one of the crewed passengers, praised the Don Juan's crew and said their sense of mind helped to save my lives.—Reuter.

Ranned bodies found in El Salvador

San Salvador, April 23.—Thirteen bodies, 10 of them buried with the letter *Em*, the name of the para-military right-wing death squad, were found in Chalchapa and nearby *La Ana* 50 miles east of *c.*

A police spokesman said 10 of the bodies with *Em* (Escuadra de la Muerte) scrawled on their chests were discovered in Chalchapa. The other eight were found in Santa *L* Salvador has been racked violence between left and right which many fear could lead to civil war. Human rights trials in San Salvador estimate that in the past six months 2,300 people have been killed throughout the country politically motivated violence.—Reuter.

Zimbabwe to establish official news agency and a 'reliable' paper

From Nicholas Ashford Salisbury, April 23

The new Zimbabwe government is planning to set up an official news agency and a government-supported newspaper that can be relied upon to defend the national interests.

The aim is not to provide the government with more direct access to the media, but to reduce the influence of South African interests, which control most of the country's newspapers and its news agency.

The main newspapers are *The Herald* in Salisbury, *The Chronicle* in Bulawayo, *The Sunday Mail* and a black-oriented weekly called *The National Observer*. All of them are owned by the South African African group of newspapers. The local news agency, known as the Inter-African News Agency (IANA) is owned by the South African Press Association.

The only paper supporting the government at the moment is a small Catholic weekly called *Our Lady* whose printing press in Gwelo was blown up during the election campaign.

In the early days of UDI it held a stand against the policies of Ian Smith's government. However, in recent years, particularly in the disaster area.

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Mr Karamanlis likely to be elected Greek President

From Marin Modiano Athens, April 23

The Greek Parliament, as expected, failed today to elect a new president by the required two-thirds majority of its 300 members, but gave fairly solid indications that Mr Constantine Karamanlis, the Prime Minister, who is the main candidate, will be elected on May 5 when a third-round majority of 150 votes will suffice.

In today's secret ballot, Mr Karamanlis received 179 votes. There were 15 blank votes, while 10 ballot papers carried five different names, mainly of politicians.

The 92 Deputies of the Pan-Hellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK), the main opposition party, attended the session but when their names were called out for voting, they said: "I refuse to vote" or raised a hand in a negative gesture. PASOK has 93 deputies but one was absent.

The 11 Deputies of the pro-Moscow Greek Communist Party are assumed to have cast blank votes. They were presumably joined by four independent members, including Mr George Mavros, the former Liberal Foreign Minister.

The smaller opposition parties voted each, symbolically, for a different candidate, except for the right-wing National Rally which was split, with two of its deputies abstaining, two others supporting Mr Karamanlis.

Support for Mr Karamanlis received six votes more than his own party, the ruling New Democracy, has members in Parliament, also from one centre dissident and three independent deputies. At today's session 296 deputies were present, of whom 204 cast votes.

Parliament will meet again to vote for a president next Tuesday. A candidate in the second vote will still require 200 votes for election but if a third ballot is required then 180 votes will be enough. If the third ballot fails to elect a president the constitution requires the immediate calling of a general election.

As the possibility of a premature election draws closer, more opposition deputies are expected to opt in favour of the candidature of Mr Karamanlis who, barring surprises, should become President during next month.

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A Cuban soldier stands at the gangplank as a crowded refugee ship prepares to take Cuban dissidents to Florida.

US to stop \$5,000-a-trip refugee fleet

From David Cross Washington, April 23

The United States Government today sought to stop a flotilla of small American boats from sailing to Cuba to bring back refugees seeking to leave via the Peruvian Embassy in Havana.

The State Department in Washington announced that it would prosecute boat owners and captains who tried to land the refugees in Florida. Under American law, those involved in the transport of illegal immigrants can be fined up to \$5,000 (about £2,250) for each refugee, jailed for up to five years, and have their vessels confiscated.

The State Department was responding to reports from port

officials in Key West, the closest American point to Cuba, that more than 60 boats arrived on trailers at the city's marinas during the night and some had left for Cuba this morning. In some cases it appears that the boat owners are seeking refugees for up to \$5,000 to bring them to the United States.

While Washington has been deciding what to do about the problem, a number of small fishing boats have already made the journey to Cuba and back with refugees. Two boats, manned by Cuban exiles in the United States, arrived at Key West with more than 200 refugees from the embassy.

A State Department spokesman said that the Government

had not acted sooner because of the "very complex legal" situation surrounding the evacuation of the refugees. Cleverly, it also hoped that the Cuban would disappear before it became too serious.

Washington has been hoping that President Castro will agree to let all the 10,000 or so refugees leave the Peruvian Embassy by aircraft provided by the Peruvian and Costa Rican Governments. But although a few hundred refugees were allowed to fly out of the country several days ago, Dr Castro apparently felt that the United States was being used by Latin American countries as a propaganda tool against his regime.

Dr Castro's change of heart led to much frustration among Cuban exiles, many of whom live in Florida. The flotilla of small boats is apparently their solution.

The State Department argues that such a flotilla plays into the hands of Dr Castro, because it obscures the fact that he normally allows no-one to leave the Caribbean island freely.

The spokesman said, however, that Washington "deeply sympathized" with those in this country who want to expedite the departure of the refugees.

The United States has promised to allow up to 3,500 of the Cuban exiles to settle in the United States. Those who have already managed to reach the country by boat are likely to be allowed to stay, provided they can convince the authorities that they are neither criminals nor spies.

Nine die in Turkish gunfight over accident

From Sinan Fisk Ankara, April 23

An armed clash between security forces and citizens in the southern Turkish town of Tarsus, left nine people dead and 21 seriously injured late last night.

The source of the trouble was a traffic accident on the road between Anadolu, Turkey's fourth largest city, and the Mediterranean port of Mersin. A 15-year-old girl who was crossing the road was run over by a car and some 1,500 people from Tarsus blocked the highway in protest against what they said was the authorities' lack of response to previous demands for a pedestrian bridge across the busy road.

Police sources said that, apparently backed by some left-wing militants, the people set up barricades and unidentified persons opened fire on security forces who came to break up the crowd and clear the barricades.

The security forces fired back and nine people were killed in a gunfight which lasted for more than an hour.

Three of those killed were young schoolchildren.

A curfew was imposed in Tarsus after the incident and the situation this morning was reported to be calm.

Political killings: Political violence throughout Turkey yesterday led to one of the worst daily death tolls for years, police reported.

Four people were killed in two separate incidents yesterday, one apparently in revenge for the other, in the south-eastern town of Siverek. The first victims were two members of the youth branch of the ruling right-wing Justice Party.

Two people were shot dead for political motives in Istanbul, one in Ankara, one in Gaziantep and one in Trabzon according also to the police.

Riots in Berber town after student strikes

International outcry over executions in Liberia

From Alan McGregor Geneva, April 23

The International Commission of Jurists said today that the convictions by court-martial and executions of 13 people in Liberia by firing squad yesterday were "in violation of all accepted international norms".

Underlining that it was not seeking to defend the previous leftist Government, the commission said it was clear from the Monrovia official announcement that the accused, who included Senate President Frank Tolbert, brother of the assassinated president, "were tried on vague charges which did not constitute offences at the time of the acts complained of".

Youths demanding official recognition of Berber (non-Arab) culture, threw up barricades.

Witnesses said that most official buildings, as well as the Lalafon Hotel, had been sacked.

Many adults, as well as people living in the neighbouring mountains, had joined the students. — Agence France-Presse.

The commission said that the new Government, to establish proper procedures in conformity with the rule of law for trying alleged criminals of the former regime. About 80 more people are said to be awaiting trial.

From Bonn, it was reported that the West German Government appealed to Liberia to exercise restraint.

The plea for mercy was also taken up at a meeting of African Foreign Ministers in Lagos. Sources said that during today's closed-door plenary session, ministers attending the preparatory conference for the economic summit of the Organisation of African Unity next week observed one minute's silence in memory of Mr Cecil Dennis, Liberia's executed Foreign Minister.

Clemency rejected: The People's Redemption Council, headed by the country's new ruler, Master Sergeant Samuel Doe, rejected the military tribunal's recommendation for only four death sentences among the 14 men on trial.

Lieutenant-Colonel Frank Senkpeni, the tribunal president, said today that two of the 14 executed had been declared innocent of high treason. The tribunal had been overruled.

The two were Mr P. Clarence Parker, treasurer of the former ruling True Whig Party, and Mr Charles King, of the House of Representatives.

Trials go on: Two more ministers of the ousted Tolbert regime appeared before a military tribunal in Monrovia yesterday. They were Mr Burleigh Holder, who served as Minister of National Security, and Mr Edward B. Kessely.

The new Foreign Minister, Mr Gabriel Bacchus Matthew, said Liberia would send a delegation to the OAU summit meeting in Lagos.—UPI and Agence France-Presse.

Chancery Division

Employment Appeal Tribunal

Report April 23 1980

Tareva injunction granted against non-foreign defendant

From Sir Robert Megarry, Vice-Chancellor

Mr Justice Johnson, Vice-Chancellor, delivered April 21

he said that the defendant was a foreigner or foreign-based no bar to the grant of a injunction restraining him from removing his assets from the jurisdiction.

Mr D. C. Unwin for Mr Yuill, LS, LORDSHIP said that the action was whether a *Mareva* action could and should be used against a defendant who was not a party to the proceedings.

It was accepted that some £3,300 standing to his credit in a bank account represented the balance of the proceeds of sale of the flat. The plaintiff feared that he would remove all his assets from the jurisdiction and so render ineffective the relief she sought in the application.

He said that he would carry out building works to her order to the value of £28,000 and then pay her a sum which was agreed at £2,000, which she said was never paid.

The point had been taken that Mr Yuill, as defendant, who was not a foreigner, could not be granted an injunction.

His Lordship traced the history of the *Mareva* principle. There were two lines of authority. First, *Lister & Co v Stubbs* [1890] 45 Ch D 11 established the general proposition that the court would not grant an injunction restraining a defendant from disposing of his assets so that they might be preserved in case the plaintiff succeeded.

Second, in *Monrovia v Lister* [1975] 2 Lloyd's Rep 509, with its immediate precursor, *Nippon Yusen Kaisha v Karagorgis* [1975] 1 WLR 1031, based on the same statutory language, it seemed that the heart of the *Mareva* principle was that the risk of removal of the assets was so great that the risk of removing his assets from the jurisdiction and so defeating any judgment given in the action was "in violation of all accepted international norms".

Underlining that it was not seeking to defend the previous leftist Government, the commission said it was clear from the Monrovia official announcement that the accused, who included Senate President Frank Tolbert, brother of the assassinated president, "were tried on vague charges which did not constitute offences at the time of the acts complained of".

Mr Justice Dennis, Liberia's Foreign Minister, rejected the military tribunal's recommendation for only four death sentences among the 14 men on trial.

The *Mareva* doctrine grew up in commercial surroundings, particularly in regard to ships. But there was no authority for commercial matters, which sufficiently distinguished it from the *Lister* principle, which should be regarded as a limited exception to it.

In order for Mr Reeves to show that he had been put at a disadvantage by the defendant's conduct, he had to show that the defendant's conduct was "substantial". The disadvantage was "substantial" if the defendant paid in advance what he was owed, and "substantial" if he was not paid in advance.

Mr Reeves had failed to show that the union was in breach of rule 24(7) of the *Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act*, 1978.

Mr Tugendhat, for Mr Reeves, said that he should be entitled to pay the net amount of the contribution by the union members within the first month of the year. The *Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act*, 1978, provides: "The

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Famous Writer as Monster

Somerset Maugham

By Ted Morgan

Cape £8.95

guishing between fiction and fact—always close, but never quite touching in Maugham—but even after reading him I am still not sure. For *Services Rendered* (1934) is a masterpiece, *Rain* hysterical puritanism.

Morgan has his own limitations—which I'll come to in a moment—but in the main he has responded to his monstrous task with sympathy, sharpness and great organizing skill. Maugham emerges the complete professional, writing ceaselessly, tough on money and contracts, soft (at first, anyway) on conceding censorship in order to get into print; answering letters, to the end of his life, from both aspirant writers and unknown fans. Guests did not interrupt the day's work routine: his drinking was austere.

English by birth, French by upbringing; a homosexual husband and father: fidelity informed his whole existence, and he was ever at odds with himself. Morgan sums up:

He combined an Education sense of the importance of the details of his own life with a pirate's instincts towards his literary material... He had a low opinion of the human species but a high tolerance of human frailty.

The biggest cache of new letters is to Bert Alanson, his close friend and investor from San Francisco; others in which he writes freely are to Barbara Bach, a rare woman friend, Edward Knoblock, and Behrman. They tell us very little about his work—*Cakes and Ale* (1930) was suggested by Hardy's funeral—and a good deal about his domestic life with Gerald Haxton and (later) Alan Searle, in particular of Gerald's violence, alcoholism and horrible, cursing death in 1944. Only one friend in the whole story records a scene of spontaneous affection between them. But Gerald was vintage, as someone said unkindly, and Alan was *virgin*.

The damning doubts persist. "I didn't think Willie—whom I didn't know from the time I was 18—an interesting man or an interesting writer," Dame Rebecca West told Morgan in defence of Syrie Maugham—whom (like Noel Coward) she considered more intelligent than before, or feel that the enigma surrounding his personality and work has not deepened as result: a grim, unhappy and humourless tale, *Somerset Maugham* is dedicated to the memory of S. N. Behrman, who is one of the very few wholly attractive people in it. So many of Maugham's values were trivial and perverse, and much of his wit today seems staid, not to say stodgy.

The biggest cache of new letters is to Bert Alanson, his close friend and investor from San Francisco; others in which he writes freely are to Barbara Bach, a rare woman friend, Edward Knoblock, and Behrman. They tell us very little about his work—*Cakes and Ale* (1930) was suggested by Hardy's funeral—and a good deal about his domestic life with Gerald Haxton and (later) Alan Searle, in particular of Gerald's violence, alcoholism and horrible, cursing death in 1944. Only one friend in the whole story records a scene of spontaneous affection between them. But Gerald was vintage, as someone said unkindly, and Alan was *virgin*.

The most valuable outside witness of this fanatically concealed private life is the American writer Glenway Wescott, who seems to have shared a mutual respect with Maugham; Searle himself was interviewed for the book by Patrick O'Higgins, the red-haired ex-Irish Guardsman picked up by Searle on Maugham's instructions ("Get that boy, he has nice manners"), but soon ejected from the villa after a spirited and noisy return from Nice at four in the morning. Exuberance was ill-bred. Morgan treads with great care through this minefield, though deals coldly with

Sir Beverley Nichols and sceptically with the claims recorded by the present Lord Maugham who, after his injuries in the war, disappointed his uncle's hopes in him deeply.

Maugham was a badly damaged child of the Nineties who survived into the age of Sunday serializations and John Junior. Of the three figures who shaped his creative life and imagination most strongly—a surely unique trio of Schopenhauer, Ibsen and Wilde—it is Ibsen who emerges the most decisive, a presence felt, though rarely mentioned, throughout the book. Celebrated, hard-working, vindictive, and always cleverly masked, Somerset Maugham was the exemplary Ibsenite protagonist.

American biographies comes in two kinds: those which like Richard B. Sewall's masterpiece on Emily Dickinson or Arthur Wilson's *Diderot*—are written for the world, and those which are written primarily for Americans. Somerset Maugham is one of those, and this may blunt the effect of Mr Morgan's diligence here. The book is nearly 700 pages long, not simply because its references are meticulous, accounted for in 40 pages of notes, nor because it is, by today's standards, decently indexed, but because he has done his background research so exhaustively that he has not been able to resist putting every bit of it in—including much information familiar to English readers, some of which is not strictly true ("It was the Paris of the Impressionists"—this of 1904) and some which is not true at all, ie, that Canterbury Cathedral was built in five years between 1175 and 1180 (one minute with Pevsner would have made nonsense of that).

We read of the London City Council, the "Montagu versus Pitt-Rivers trial", and of Cyril Connolly rejecting a Maugham article for *Horizon* three years before the magazine was founded: a figure described as R. A. B. Butler recurs, and other victims of misspellings include Roderic O'Conor, Maggie Alabane, Albermarle Street, Fanny Cradock and Campden Hill. Maugham would have had a fit. The book is printed in the United States, which has kept the price down handsomely: this, alas, is the cost. The photographs are generous and splendid, the mask of life turned sourly down to the very bitter end.

Michael Ratcliffe

Cain murdering Abel, from a thirteenth century manuscript at St John's College, Cambridge, in *Late Antique, Early Christian and Medieval Art* by Meyer Schapiro (Charto & Windus, £20). "As if it

were Cain's jawbone that did the first murder." Why from the ninth

century on did the English choose the jawbone of an ass as Cain's

weapon? If it was simple transposition from the story of Samson, why did the English rather than anybody else make it? Professor Schapiro argues persuasively that it was because of an Anglo-Saxon pun between

cinbana, a jawbone, and Cain bana, Cain the bane.

Fiction

Mulligan Stew

By Gilbert Sorrentino

(Marion Boyars, £7.25)

The Sweet Shop Owner

By Graham Swift

(Allen Lane, £5.95)

The lady who was Lorenz Hart's delicious tramp, wined and dined on Mulligan Stew. Served with Gilbert Sorrentino's hallucinogenic broth, she need not have missed the Beaux Arts Ball—with Storyville Mardi Gras (far a go and clicks away) thrown in. At Marienbad, though farrago is hardly an adequate word for a novel dedicated to the memory of Brian O'Nolan (*Flann O'Brien*).

Anthony Lamont's attempt to adapt the *neovreal roman* mystery framework to American culture is interrupted by his correspondence, his notebook, his scrapbook (incorporating the Question/Answer advice of the "Writers' Helper Monthly"), extracts from his own catastrophic oeuvre, the erotic poems of a female admirer, kaleidoscopic interviews with artists, and a mathematical treatise. More serious: his disgusted characters, who have previously been employed by Messrs Joyce and Hemingway, revolt, seeking escape. (Those once hired by Mr Fitzgerald are more passive.) Martin Halpin keeps his own journal in which he reviles Lamont but also records various items of interest: the score-card of a baseball game, which the truant witnessed alongside another veteran of *Finnegans Wake* in the half-constructed town of an abandoned book; a brilliant and bawdy masque, reflecting social and ethnic prejudices in the United States today, written by a literary catcher now relegated to boys' books; the cynical reflections on their fictive past of fugitives from an Irish "Western" by Lamont's hated rival brother-in-law; and the catalogue of his own publishing interests: the score-card of a baseball game, which the truant witnessed alongside another veteran of *Finnegans Wake* in the half-constructed town of an abandoned book; a brilliant and bawdy masque, reflecting social and ethnic prejudices in the United States today, written by a literary catcher now relegated to boys' books; the cynical reflections on their fictive past of fugitives from an Irish "Western" by Lamont's hated rival brother-in-law; 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While others were assessing the damage, we were paying for it.

On the morning of January 11th 1978, you might have been forgiven for mistaking the streets of Sheerness for Amsterdam or Venice. After a night of near hurricane force winds and waves as high as houses, the East Kent coastline was, quite simply, blown to bits. In the light of this thirty mile trail of devastation, it became clear to us at Commercial Union that there was only one way we could be of real help. Not with tea and sympathy. Or vague promises of compensation. But rather, by agreeing to claims immediately. On the spot. Now, it's not every day you'll find us popping in on policy holders, with a view to popping a cheque in the post. After all, like any other insurance company, every claim we deal with involves certain formalities. There are details to be noted down. Policies to be checked out. Assessments to be made. And so on. A process that can take anything from five minutes to five months. Or even longer. Speaking for ourselves, we prefer to simplify the paperwork, for the sake of a speedy settlement. Which is precisely how we coped with the mopping up of East Kent. On January 12th, with the storm damage barely a day old, we set up an emergency claims centre in Canterbury. Within two working days we had our own team of claims inspectors out and about on the waterways, personally totting up the cost of repairs. In all, we paid out £115,000 from just one branch, to more than 400 policy holders. So they could start rebuilding their lives, while others were still getting estimates. **We won't make a drama out of a crisis.**

Commercial Union
ASSURANCE

SPORT

Boxing

Why Gardner could look better against champion than novice

By Srikumar Srinivasan

The responsibility that John L. Gardner gained by adding the European title to his British and Commonwealth bantamweights could sit as uncomfortably as a tight white collar on the establishment. For, after his victory over Tom Lawless on Tuesday night, when he beat a comparative novice, Rudy Casave of Belgium, in nine rounds at the Albert Hall, comes the question of where next for Gardner.

Clearly the Hackney man wants to move in more elevated circles that will help him in on the American market. He has to do this without raising a loud guffaw from the public at the thought of the British boxer meeting the world champion. Larry Holmes: also, how to counter the protest of the anti-boxing lobby, who sense another Dave Green in this way, although Holmes is not nearly so electric as Sugar Ray Leonard, the man who knocked out Green in four rounds.

What we may see, after a decent interval and a livelier voluntary defence of one of the titles, is a non-voluntary, non-devolutionary card trick involving Molines, Gardner and a third man, possibly, as suggested by the Sunday Times. All in, if Gardner were ranged tenth, the bottom ranking, he would do well to the top, and make him take on his ranking and responsibility, the World Boxing Council could then recognise the Holmes-All bout in Rio de Janeiro and honour the world's all-round.

All this assumes there is a gap between now and July, when All meets Holmes. But apart from

that, the scheme sounds a little too pat. Besides, All's sporting a track suit and a paunch has given Gardner friendly slaps on the cheek in an exhibition match at the Albert Hall, and not too many people will want to see that.

Gardner's manager, Terry Lawless, suggests the new champion has to take on board his small purses just to keep busy. Mr Lawless denies that Gardner was being藻飾 at the world champion right now. But when he is ready to take on the big man he is ready to do what he has to do.

Rudy Casave was the world champion, in nine rounds at the Albert Hall, comes the question of where next for Gardner.

Gardner would look terrible against Holmes. Just because he was so bad against Casave... Gardner's main fault is that he is always too close to his opponent. He should stand back, take his time, consider and look at his victim, select a corner, fall with so many British boxers, with the exception of Flanagan, to treat opponents as punchbags. Some of the best punches are delivered by letting the boxer move away from a corner. It was the same watching Box-Edwards against Benny Munro. Box-Edwards needs doom to send in his punches, yet so often he was too close to the Puerto Rican boxer, and suffered effects.

The same with Magri. Holmes, of course, would give a man like Gardner plenty of room to move like punches if the champion did not let them first. This is why Gardner could look far better against the champion than against a novice.

Cowdell meets his old foe

Pat Cowdell, the British feather-weight champion from Wrexham, will defend his title against the former champion Dave Needham, of Nottingham, at the Civic Hall, Wolverhampton, on May 29. Cowdell will be making a voluntary defence in a match that is a repeat of his controversial fight with Needham at the same venue last September. On that occasion referee Sir Nathan gave the decision to Needham which provoked noisy crowd scenes and led to the British Boxing Board of Control ordering an immediate return. It took place at the Royal Albert Hall on November 6 when Cowdell

won on points. Cowdell's first defence was in February when he stopped Jimmy Flint of London.

Whoever wins next month will take London belt outright and if Pat is successful, he will have retained the title in just under seven months.

Robbie Davies, Birkenhead's 30-year-old former ABA middleweight champion, who boxed for Britain at the 1976 Montreal Olympics, announced his retirement from boxing yesterday. Davies, who lost a British title final eliminator to Pat Thomas of Cardiff last year, won 11 of his 13 professional contests in his career spanning three years.

Book review

Complicated plot unravelled in history of the AAA

By Cliff Temple

The Amateur Athletic Association celebrates its centenary today. It is an occasion which might be overshadowed by the approach of the Moscow Olympic Games and the increasing concentration over how the amateur concept itself may change in the future.

To record the 100 years since its inaugural meeting in the Banqueting House at the Rendezvous Hotel, Oxford, the Official Centenary History of the Amateur Athletic Association, by Peter Lowesey (Guinness Superlatives Ltd, £7.95) could not have been more timely, nor better presented.

Lowesey, a celebrated fiction writer as well as a dedicated athletics historian, is accustomed to defining his characters in a complicated plot, and the days prior to the foundation of the AAA certainly provided him with a rich field of rivals and jealousies entwined between such men as John Chambers and the Waddell brothers, James and William, as they sought control of the sport before the AAA was founded.

The early days of the Association were taken up with trying to define and uphold the amateur rules, so, in some respects, time moves slowly. As early as 1936, the year of the first modern Olympics, a number of top amateur officials had been disqualified for life for accepting cash payments from clubs to appear at their meetings.

Where athletes participated "surreptitiously" and "secretly" to life in what could so easily have become a dry dictionary of facts and figures, you can hear an Irishman, Peter O'Connor, the winner of the AAA's junior 100m sprint in 1901 and 1902, explaining his take-off technique: "I hit the first mark easy like, then I run harder for the next one and when I'm hitting that, I go for all that's in me and I run four or five from the take-off, shut my eyes and put my trust in God."

The concept of "simply" taking part hangs the most important

thing had apparently not been embraced 100 years ago and the author records that it was usual for a runner to drop out at a race if he had not won a race the previous year. A contemporary report of the 1883 AAA four-mile championship related: "Dixon kept plodding away, though for what purpose it would be hard to say, as he had not even a quarter of a mile behind."

The development of the annual AAA championships themselves, and a cast of notable athletes who have participated in them over the years, are well covered in the book. Names like Douglas Lowe, Sydney Wooderson, MacDonald Bailey and Gordon Pirie take us along a path onto which the reader can build his own personal history.

The latest section of the story starts in the 1970's with the move of the championships from White City to Crystal Palace. The last championships, held at White City in 1971, saw the women's 10,000m (which ended in a tie) and the men's 10,000m (which ended in a tie) inauspiciously in mausoleum gloom. The AAA then went into a financial crisis and on the back of "Lord Hutton's" 100th birthday, it chances on making 100th bundred doubtful", the author reflects.

But when the championships were first held at Crystal Palace in 1971, a young man named David Bedford had moved into the limelight. His first attempt there on the 10,000m, 5,000 spectators and held, I remember, in mausoleum gloom. The AAA then

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PLAYING THE RUSSIAN GAME

Debate is taking place in the United States and the United States' policy on Iran and the politics of the alliance. It is first of all to define the political objective to which the powers ought to give way. In our view, the essential is to prevent the expansion of Soviet power towards the Middle East. The invasion of Afghanistan considerably strengthened the strategic position but still on the borders of the area, Iran is right in the West. The West has irreversibly the alliance of Iran, but the Union has not yet it. To prevent Iran moving a Soviet camp is therefore a mediate objective. There is no room for regaining Iran as and therefore the policy is to support in every way the non-alignment of

is the non-alignment of be maintained? The only sufficiently powerful to that is the Islamic revolution. On their own the moderate Iran almost certainly weaker to prevent the left taking over. The alternative continuation of Islamic politics or a take-over by pro-Soviet political

It is possible that in the of this conflict provincial forces will also play an important part. The interest West is therefore to establish a relationship as possible with the existing regime in including both the President Bani-Sadr and—however that may be—with the Khomeini himself. The western relationship Iran, the more chance the Union has.

difficulties of such a are all too obvious. The of the American hostages international outrage;

from the point of view of those who wish to maintain Iran's independence it is an act of criminal folly. It has put great pressure on the American administration, pressure which was withstood with admirable firmness until recent weeks. The pressure is to play into the hands of the Soviet Union by an exaggerated response, possibly even leading to military action.

It has to be clearly understood that any American military action against Iran would be a decisive step in strengthening the Soviet position in the Middle East. It would alienate all the Islamic countries—even Pakistan—and make it difficult for the friends of the United States in the Middle East to maintain their friendship. It would put pressure on Iran to accept Soviet assistance and it would strengthen a revolutionary decree all those forces in Iran which are most hostile to the United States and to the West generally. As a policy it has nothing to recommend it, and in a rational world it would not even be discussed.

Even the existing economic measures have led naturally to new contracts with Communist countries.

The European allies of the United States have been put under great pressure by the Carter administration to sever economic and diplomatic links with Iran in order to put pressure on the Iranian government to release the hostages. The history of sanctions and the history of hostages does not suggest that this policy is likely to be effective. In an abnormal and illegal situation of this kind it is the cultivation of relationships rather than their destruction which has produced the most favourable results.

The European governments rightly want to maintain and support the alliance, and they should not be criticised for going some

way in responding to American requests for help, even though they believe that such help is likely to prove damaging to the interests of the United States. The maintenance of the alliance and the confidence of the alliance is a very major objective of international policy. "My ally, right or wrong" has some merit, but not "let me hand you the pistol you wish to put in your head".

Newspapers have a somewhat different duty and have to try and see and state the truth. The truth, which is widely perceived by experts in Washington by ordinary Americans, and by all the European Governments, is that the escalation of American policy is not the most likely way of freeing the hostages, given the emotional state of revolutionary opinion in Iran, but is much the most likely way of spreading and strengthening Soviet power. Furthermore, a further advance of Soviet power in the Middle East is the one plausible cause of

An increase in Soviet power over Iran would therefore be extremely damaging to western interests and dangerous to the future of mankind. It is not right to assume that Americans are naive people who cannot see or are too angry to discuss the implications of policy. On the contrary the United States is a mature, hard-headed and rational civilisation. If one believes that American policy is in danger of moving in a direction which can only be of enormous assistance to the Soviet Union, and is damaging to the United States and to all free nations it would be treating Americans as children not to say so. It is necessary to distinguish between the question of the hostages, a criminal act by a minor power in the course of a revolution, and the threat of the extension of Soviet power to the area which contains the world's main reserves of oil.

O WILL RUN WITH MR REAGAN?

unlikely that the Pennsylvania primaries will have any effect on either the Democratic or the Republican election, even though President appears to have lost Senator Kennedy and Mr Mondale has definitely been beaten by Mr Bush. Mr Carter is able to preserve his elegies for the convenience. Mr Reagan has, however, increased his advantages of delegates while his personal popularity. Both of them are now so bad that there is no to modify the judgment will be the candidate's election itself in

is, however, one place in that remains in It can be taken for that Vice-President will, once again, be Mr running mate. But who the second place on the ticket? For many Vice-Presidential candidates regarded as being of consequence because the is not one of significant he Vice-President has no

specific function beyond presiding over the Senate. He is not usually an integral member of the administration, most Presidents failing to live up to the promise so often made on taking office that they would give their Vice-President responsibilities of substance. As a rule the Vice-President has been left in a constitutional waiting-room to be censored by the performance of no more than ceremonial duties.

But more attention is paid to Vice-Presidential candidates these days. This is not principally because Mr Mondale has played a rather larger role in the present administration than was customary in the past, but because twice in the past seventeen years the Vice-President has taken over in mid-term. The voters appreciate that they may be choosing not only the next President, but also the next President but one. They therefore want to feel that both men on the ticket are of presidential calibre.

This is something that the Republicans have conspicuously failed to take into account for some years. The list since 1964 of Mr William Miller, Mr Spiro Agnew (twice!) and Senator Robert Dole is an almost comic reflection upon the political judgment of successive Presidential candidates. Such choices did not help the Republicans in the past and a similar selection now would be particularly damaging to Mr Reagan because there must clearly be a greater expectation that a man who would be nearly seventy by the time he entered the White House might die in office.

It will not be enough then simply to balance the ticket. If that were the objective, it would imply that an elderly right-winger from California should seek a young liberal from the east coast as his running mate, a mistake which Mr Reagan is not likely to make. But it will also not be enough for Mr Reagan to choose someone who reflects his views, even though that would offer continuity. If the second person on the ticket is to present a convincing face to the electorate, he must be someone of whom the voters appreciate that they may be choosing not only the next President, but also the next President but one. They therefore want to feel that both men on the ticket are of presidential calibre.

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CAUSE TO END A FRIENDSHIP

Ireland or Zimbabwe. The issue has now been raised by Saudi Arabia to one of state relations. This is a pity, for as most Saudi officials know, the British Government do not and shall not have the power to censor television programmes. Inconvenient though this is on many occasions, particularly in foreign relations, it is one of those British customs that foreigners must do their best to understand. The freedom that this gives the media is frequently abused, and television is a powerful rather than a precise instrument, but the price of freedom is always the abuse of freedom and it is a price that is worth paying. If in this case Saudi Arabia has good cause to feel misunderstood, Britain now has equal cause, for its diplomatic relations with Saudi Arabia are to be reduced because of a grievance which is not in the power of the Government to remedy.

The British Government's response to Saudi protests against the offending film has been

proper and adequate. It expressed regret for any offence that the film might cause in Saudi Arabia. The regret was genuine and appropriate. It is difficult to see what more could have been done. Yet given the depth of feeling on the subject in Saudi Arabia it must be acknowledged that the Saudi response has been relatively restrained. To request the withdrawal of the British ambassador is a strong gesture of protest but it does not, or need not, cause lasting damage to political or economic relations between the two countries. It should be seen as a legitimate expression of resentment by a country that has reason to feel maligned. The Saudis should be reassured that respect for Islam and interest in the Islamic religion is at present growing in Britain. The British response to Saudi protests against the offending film has been

allowed to proceed unhampered could easily turn out to be the innumerate landscape which is the envy of the world, into something reminiscent of the Kansas prairies. This threat needs to be tackled over as wide an area as possible—certainly over a wider area than covered by the present AONB. If some small areas of lowland countryside are granted first-tier status under the CRC scheme, this will do little to help the English landscape. And if the remaining stretches of the lowland AONB were "promoted" through being accorded the same status as those parts of the national parks that do not make the first division, that will not help either, mainly because such designation would offer the areas concerned no extra protection against the agricultural change that is transforming them.

It is doubtful that a little more of the money now being spent in the uplands would end up in the lowlands. But, being spent in the lowlands, a few more picnic sites and information centres will not help the English countryside in what is now

the countryside. Marion Shoard

Those who are concerned about the lowland England's will welcome the concern for the stretches of land as present protected by no areas of outstanding beauty (AONB) (Letter, 11 April). But the idea that these areas significantly from outside. Review Committee's review designation arrangements, so, are misconceived, we are more likely to be the. Our plan could certainly be as recognition of the of the intense difficulties in our hitherto under-lowlands. But it would do nothing for the real of these areas. The low landscape, which has been being spent in the uplands, would end up in the lowlands. But, being spent in the lowlands, a few more picnic sites and information centres will not help the English countryside in what is now

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Pay increases in public sector

From Mr I. D. Coutts

Sir, The criticism of the Chancellor of the Exchequer when he reported to the House of Commons Select Committee (report, April 13) that pay increases in the public sector were likely to cost 25 per cent in the current year should not have come as a surprise to him. Both central and local government have pretended to live within cash limits by holding over part of a negotiated pay increase into a subsequent year. This cowardly strategy in the face of union pressure for higher pay that the authorities could afford is now coming home to roost in the shape of a 25 per cent increase in costs. Its effect on inflation levels this year will be extremely damaging.

Local government has now decided that the "end loading" must stop and that is one of the reasons why the Association of County Councils is making no further references to the Clegg Commission.

Whether the Government has learned the lesson that it is better to negotiate a wage settlement in full on the basis of the current year's cash limits rather than weakly throwing forward parts of the cost into a following year will be apparent when the full details of the current Civil Service pay claim settlement are published.

Yours faithfully,
IAN COUTTS, Chairman, Association of County Councils
2 The Close, Norwich, April 21.

Morbid reportage

From Dr O. Caiger-Smith

Sir, What has happened to medical confidentiality? Why, day after day, do we have accounts of the morbid anatomy of the eminent—at present the Shah of Iran and President Tito of Yugoslavia? Who wants these journalistic laparotomies?

In 1936 the broadcast announcement, so dignified and so moving, at the time of the death of King George V, were appropriate to the circumstances. But the detailed clinician notes now in the headlines are contrary to good taste and of no value.

Yours sincerely,
OLIVER CAIGER-SMITH,
Beecham Stocks,
Reading,
Berks.

Plight of single homeless

From Sister N. M. Nelson

Sir, The Church Army appreciates the concern being expressed in letters from bishops, social workers and probation officers about the plight of the single homeless in a new poverty trap. (Letters, March 24, 29 and April 8). Not only are there fewer places to live but the cost of very basic accommodation is becoming prohibitive to those most in need of shelter.

A few years ago Church Army transferred hostel properties to the Church Army Housing Association, though the management and care are still the responsibility of Church Army itself. This meant that there could be a programme for major improvements and implementation of fire regulations which, with finance from the Housing Corporation, ensured at least another 40 years' life. Part of this deal meant that in the management certain conditions must be met. One of these is that we change the Supplementary Benefit Commission market rate for accommodation and some board. Each year the Department of the Environment provides us with the level of charges and, if we do not conform to these our Hostel Deficit Grant from the Department of the Environment is reduced accordingly.

Yours sincerely,
NORMA M. NELSON,
Director, Social Work,
Church Army,
CSC House,
North Circular Road, NW10.
April 18.

Violent youth

From Mr Colin Davies

Sir, Lord Hunt (April 12) and Mr Bryan Thwaites (April 19) emphasize the naivete of comment in your columns following the rioting in Bristol and point out the need for some real challenge to young people.

In the Sail Training Association schooners Sir Winston Churchill and Malcolm Miller our primary task is to provide such challenge. The instinct for adventure is a craving for mastery over the difficult and the unexpected; it can be satisfied by useless and anti-social violence, or it can be met by a confrontation with the forces of nature. Our challenge to the young is to take, in the space of two weeks, a large sailing ship across 800 to 1,000 miles of unpredictable sea that can erupt into daunting violence, with alarming little notice. In the event the more optimistic of us have been assured by the responsible providers and the majority of the trainees respond and take back to their home and their work something of what they have learnt.

Since 1966 we have provided this experience for over 14,000 young people, and through our voluntary local committees, without government grants or assistance, hope to do so, do so in the future. Yours faithfully,
COLIN DAVIES, Deputy Chairman, CSC-Schooners, Bosham, Sussex.
April 21.

Farmers and consumers

From Mrs E. G. Cheverny

Sir, Your correspondent John Chaloner (April 17), fails to state that the capital values of owner-occupied farms have trebled in the last five years.

Yours sincerely,
E. G. CHEVERNY,
14 Roman Way,
St Margaret's at Cliffe,
Dover, Kent.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Challenges to Western diplomacy

From the Editor-in-chief of Die Zeit

Sir, I have never been a Wagner fan, but during my early youth, yet I have always admired Bernard Levin's rhapsodic reports on his successive pilgrimages to the Master's shrine; no one else, in this age of drab journalism, can turn an English phrase as elegantly as he does. But when Mr Levin writes about political questions (April 22) his acumen is not unflattering, equal to his erasure.

Bernard Levin would never, I trust, base his criticism of an entire party political prejudices to draw attention away from the fact that he has raised a matter which should be a matter for public concern: the arrangements for administrative control of the police in the London area.

The Metropolitan Police—except is now one of the largest cells among the ratepayers in the London boroughs. In this borough, police spending accounts for over £15m out of a total revenue spent of £143m, including the GLC and police levies; only the Education and Housing Departments spend more than the police. While a borough council may write to its own GLC members, it cannot do so without the size of the police levy, which is spent—it just has to pay up.

Even though relationships and informal liaison with the local senior police officers may be good, that really is no substitute for a borough larger than many provincial cities having a proper say over the raising and disposal of a 24% rate—even if the rate-support great accounts for just over half of it.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant
JOHN PARFITT,
86, Higher Drive,
Purley,
Surrey,
April 22.

From the Head Master of Downside School

Sir, Will the governments of the EEC anxious confer as to how they can support President Carter's request for sanctions against Iran, is there not a somewhat different approach to the problem of the hostages that has not yet been properly considered?

No one in the free world would dispute that to take hostages from the American Embassy in Tehran is not only unfair and cruel, but is also to strike a grave blow at the American people. What precisely is the real world would do to the Shah's name should also be felt.

Would not some acknowledgement on behalf of the American people of the wrongs committed in their name against the people of Iran encourage an early release of the hostages? To ask for forgiveness when have sinned is a necessary preliminary to reconciliation.

Yours faithfully,
RAPHAEL APPLEY,Downside School,
Stratton on the Fosse,
Bath, Avon.

From Professor Louis Halle

Sir, In your issue of April 15, commenting on my letter in your issue of April 10, Dr Walter Hauser takes me to task for saying that the Shah of Iran collapsed "as a result of a decade of increasing weakness in the Atlantic societies". I said no such thing.

Faithfully yours,
LOUIS J. HALLE,
Place de la Taconnerie 1,
CH-1204 Genève.

From P. L. Yewdall

Sir, It comes as no surprise to find Bernard Levin once again devoting his column to the question of internal democracy in the Civil and Public Services Association (article, April 15). His annual excursion into these regions has become a matter of course and, needless to say, the freedom of the press gives him the right to address himself to virtually any issue of his choosing.

Where I would take issue—in his strongest possible terms—is in his ability to make statements which may influence the course of CPSA elections, when those statements misrepresent the truth and when those affected have little opportunity to redress the balance.

I refer, specifically, to his comments on the introduction of the new ballot procedures within CPSA and the effect on those procedures of a Broad Left executive being returned to office for the coming year. In these, he suggests that the National Moderate group were responsible for the introduction of individual voting at workplace meetings and that the Broad Left would reverse that decision if given the opportunity. Nothing can be further from the truth. The new rules were drafted and promoted by "The Campaign for Union Democracy" (CUD), whose leading campaigners came exclusively from the Broad Left and Redder Tafe groupings. The chairman of its steering committee is Peter Colman, who is, in Mr Levin's own words, a "Communist Party member and candidate for the presidency". At the same time, the National Moderate group were promoting their own proposal for constitutional change, which retained the discredited blocking system. Only after their own proposal had been defeated and the vote had been called on the CUD proposal, could leading members of the Moderate Group be seen to encourage their supporters to vote for the change.

Sadly, this refutation will come too late to undo the damage in some branches whose election meetings have taken place this week. Contrary to such misrepresentations, the Broad Left stand for the extension of trade union democracy and will be laying before this year's conference proposals for the democratic election of full-time officials.

Perhaps Mr Levin, exercising his press freedom, would care to pen an article explaining why the Moderate Group in CPSA are opposed to such a vital extension of democratic control—after all, it will be the membership, through individual voting, who are called upon to make those decisions.

Yours faithfully,
P. L. YEWDALE,
31 Rhodes Avenue, N22.

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS



Stock markets

FT Ind 435.2, up 0.9
FT Gilt 56.80, up 0.17

Sterling

\$2.2645, up 2.70 cents
Index 73.5, unchanged

Dollar

Index 87.7, down 1.2

Gold

\$507.50, up \$2

Money

3 mth sterling 17.11-17.13
3 mth Euro S 15.11-15.12
3 mth Euro \$ 14.11-14.11

IN BRIEF

Korea's counterfeiting ports to banned

Korean goods counterfeiting, particularly textile items, domestic electronic goods, be outlawed after action by South Korean government.

South Korean government becomes a signatory to the Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property. This agreement to deal with counterfeiting activity by associations.

Action will dry up an important source of counterfeit which have been increasing, particularly British manufacturers. United Kingdom have been hit by the often low-grade ones—fakes of British labels.

a feedstock plea

Oil-based companies be offered North Sea oil feedstocks at a preference, to overcome cash for investment. Mr. Kingdon, president of the Oil and Gas Association, yesterday.

tugs order

Shore, the Devon-based ship, has won a £12m order for two tugs for Wimpey.

INCOME SOARS

Exxon Corporation, the largest private company, yesterday revealed a 20 per cent increase in net for the first three of this year. Page 20

ble laying

Post Office has begun to lay its network optic cable in the Mid-Oxfordshire. Before plans to have 2,200 fibre in 280 miles of

ing orders down orders won by building during the three to February were 5 per cent in value on the same 12 months earlier. The stamp was in the public building sector, which per cent lower than a 0.

group dealings

City created another fire yesterday as first started in the shares of Sugar's Amstel holding. The price closed last p above the 85p placing Mr. Sugar's per cent at 75p.

ing for Fed

Dutch Central Bank is positively the United Federal Reserve Board's for restraint in lending to residents, according to Central Bank spokesman, Amsterdam.

report

ings of the inquiry by my Fisher into Lloyd's ice market are to be led in full, the market's tree has decided.

St down

the New York Stock Dow Jones and average closed 0.60 down to 789.25 in trading 43 million shares.

PRICE CHANGES

McLeod-Kress	18p to 22p
Pearson & Sons	22p to 24p
Thorn EMI	28p to 30p
United	38p to 30p
Western Areas	10p to 11p

Home Charm	5p to 13p
Kodak Int'l	6p to 10p
MFI Firms	10p to 12p
Tarmac	12p to 12.2p
Wade Pottery	42p to 42p

THE POUND

Bank	Bank
buys	sells
Norway Kr	11.64 11.14
Portugal Esc	112.00 106.00
South Africa Rand	1.25 1.25
Sweden Kr	16.00 15.70
Switzerland Fr	4.03 3.82
USA \$	2.39 2.24
Yugoslavia Duk	51.25 48.25

For a full breakdown, see page 23. As supplied yesterday, by telephone, by Bank International Ltd. Different firms apply to different currencies and other foreign currency business.

Chase Manhattan drops prime lending rate to 19 per cent

From Frank Vogl

Washington, April 23

The Chase Manhattan Bank of New York, the third largest bank in the United States, today cut its prime commercial lending rate from 19 per cent to 19 per cent. Other banks are expected to follow.

Short term rates have been falling across the board in the money markets with the rate for Federal funds trading below 16 per cent.

There is no indication that the Federal Reserve Board has taken steps to ease its tight money supply policies, and the decline in rates appears to be the result of a considerable softening in loan demand.

Encouraged by the interest rate decline, share prices did well again today on the New York Stock Exchange, after yesterday's 30 point jump in the Dow Jones industrial average.

But the dollar was under some pressure, and dealers are nervous about its prospects, now that a downward trend in interest rates appears to be emerging.

Fears of a deep recession are increasing. The Conference Board, a private economic analysis group in New York, reported that consumer confidence fell sharply in March. A 22 per cent decline in new housing starts last month and a rise to more than 250,000 in the number of car industry layoffs—were leading economists to remain pessimistic.

With the feeling spreading through Wall Street that it will be some time, however, before a slower money growth will show up in lower inflation rates, currency traders are acutely aware of this delay, fearing that the lower interest rates, compared to the high 18 per cent inflation level in the United States, will tarnish the attractiveness of the dollar.

There is some expectation on Wall Street that the Fed may seek to slow the downward slide in short-term rates. Such intervention, motivated by fears that the dollar will decline sharply in the exchange markets, means a tightening of monetary policy, which could prolong a recession.

Heavy dollar sales as interest rates fall

Interest rates may fall sharply, the demand for credit appears to be easing considerably. More and more corporations seem willing to postpone new loan demands as much as they can to obtain lower rates in a few months' time.

As the Fed's funds rate fell today, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York moved into the markets to drain funds and signal that the central bank has no intention of easing its restrictive stance.

The Fed is now happy with the trend of the money supply and appears intent upon maintaining its present course. The current stop on the M1B money supply has been removed, showing a percentage gain for the four weeks to April 16 over the previous 13 weeks of just 2.5 per cent and over the past 26 weeks of just 4 per cent.

It will be some time, however, before a slower money growth will show up in lower inflation rates. Currency traders are acutely aware of this delay, fearing that the lower interest rates, compared to the high 18 per cent inflation level in the United States, will tarnish the attractiveness of the dollar.

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Heavy dollar sales as interest rates fall

The dollar dropped sharply in currency markets yesterday in the wake of falling American interest rates.

The markets appeared to be taken by surprise by the swift turnaround in the cost of credit in the United States. Large sales of the currency were reported in New York, driving the dollar down against all major currencies.

Sterling managed a 2.7 per cent rise against the dollar, despite news of Saudi Arabian moves against Britain.

The pound closed at \$2.2645 to the dollar. Against a basket of currencies, sterling was unchanged on the day at 73.5 per cent of its end-1971 level.

The dollar fell steeply against an average of currencies, losing 11 per cent of its value during the day. The Japanese, German and Swiss currencies all advanced rapidly against it. They finished in London at 244.2 per cent to the dollar, a rise of over 2

per cent from Tuesday's close. The yen has recovered significantly since the Japanese government introduced measures to strengthen it earlier this year.

There were reports from Tokyo yesterday that the government was considering selling long-term government bonds to Middle East oil producers to help the payments deficit.

The Deutsche mark jumped more than 4 pfennigs against the dollar to DM 1.82075. It has risen by 8 per cent since the dollar's high point just before Easter.

The Swiss franc also climbed yesterday, to close at Sw Fr 1.7010, up from Sw Fr 1.7395. The fall in United States interest rates is likely to lead to a widespread easing of rates, much as their rise led to a general tightening. Four Swiss banks yesterday announced cuts in some of their deposit rates.

Turning off the taps, Page 21

Industry pays tributes to outstanding leadership of Sir John Methven

New CBI chief will face turmoil of transition

By Patricia Tisdall

Management Correspondent

The Confederation of British Industry was shocked last night by the death of Sir John Methven, its director general. No immediate moves to find a successor are expected.

During Sir John's recent month-long trip to Australia and New Zealand, which ended on March 10, Mr. E. F. (Jimmy) James and Mr. Brian Rigby, the two deputy directors general, took over Sir John's duties. It was widely assumed that they will again take over for the time being.

Sir John's untimely death occurs during a period of transition for the CBI. It is about to change presidents and it is also moving its head office from its industrial base at Tothill Street, near the Houses of Parliament, to Centre Point, in the midst of one of the busiest retail trading districts in London, the end of Oxford Street.

More fundamentally, the CBI is facing the consequences of becoming more representative of industry generally than it was when Sir John joined it in 1976. It has widened its membership to take in finance houses, advertising agencies, retailers and other commercial organizations from its original nucleus of heavy industry manufacturers and nationalized industries.

Even Sir John, and the many senders

of tributes to his leadership and dedication, found it difficult to yield together the diverse interests into a common voice.

His successor will have to tackle the problem quickly if the CBI is not to risk disintegration.

Even more difficult is the strike fund, which is intended to provide employers with an opportunity to insure against the effects of industrial action.

The strike fund proposals are still at a crucial stage of being tested. A decision has been deferred until June and the absence of Sir John Methven who personally favoured the fund could tip the balance against the scheme.

Members and officials relied heavily on his ability to balance differences of opinion and would have looked to him to prevent a reprisal of the split.

Sir John Greenborough, who also favours the strike fund, would probably have supported them from the chair of the decision-making council.

Previously much of the burden for guiding the conference had fallen jointly on the shoulders of the president and the director general. Sir John Greenborough, the president, has, with immense tact and diplomacy, on several occasions averted confrontations between members and policy committees.

These also played a dominant role in winning unity among the 400 members at the monthly meetings of the CBI council. A thorny problem in recent months has been the Govern-

ment's Employment Bill. Some members

wanted a more hawkish attack to be made on trade union privileges and others even fear the consequences of existing proposals.

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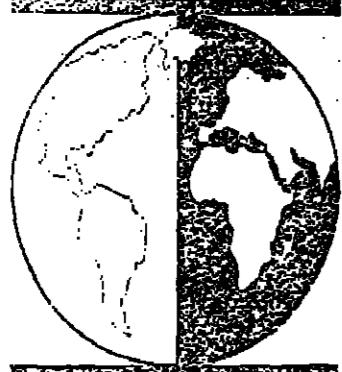
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W. German steel 'cartel' fined

The Federal Cartel Office, West Germany's anti-trust unit, has ordered fines totalling DM320,000 (£77,398) against Fried Krupp Huettenwerke AG, Thyssen AG, Thyssen Handelsgruppe AG, and Thyssen Oerft AG for allegedly conspiring to manipulate investments and production in the cold drawn steel sector.

According to the anti-trust office, Krupp and Thyssen are charged with illegally coordinating investment and production policies for cold drawn steel starting in 1965. The agreements resulted in a broad restriction of competition, the cartel office said.

The companies have filed appeals in Berlin court.

Japan produced a record 10.05 million vehicles in the year ending March, up from last year's record 8.95 million, the Japanese Automobile Manufacturers Association said. Production included 6.42 million cars, up 11 per cent on a year ago.

Technology agreement

Xerox Corporation of the United States and Thomson-CSF have reached agreement for the joint development and production of optical disc technology for data processing applications.

Taiwan vehicle venture

After six months of negotiations, the Taiwan Machinery Manufacturing Corporation and Ganzar Motors have agreed on a joint venture to produce heavy-duty trucks and buses in Taiwan.

Paris—E Berlin pact

Paris—France and East Germany will sign a 10-year economic, industrial and technical agreement today, the French External Trade Ministry said.

Major EEC role

Mr Douglas Anthony, Australian Deputy Prime Minister, said yesterday in Canberra that the EEC would play a major role in developing Australian industry.

Dutch exports pica

Mr Andreas van Agt, the Dutch Prime Minister, said in Tokyo that he had asked Japan to dismantle some of the non-tariff barriers which hinder Dutch products from entering the country.

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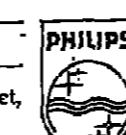
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Consumer electronics industry 'needs import controls to survive'

Far East threat to television market

The British consumer electronic manufacturing industry needs import controls to survive, the British Radio Equipment and Electronic Manufacturers Association (BREMA) said in its submission to the government select committee on imports and exports in the United Kingdom.

The association said that it would take at least four years to nurture new markets in electronics to compete with imports from the Far East.

Other EEC countries were also subject to the same pressure, the association stresses. Europe should present a uniform policy on such imports but the mechanics for providing a quick response were not presently available.

The British electronics industry has gone from one crisis to another since the early 1970s mainly because of government fluctuations in policy on consumer spending.

BREMA said there had been almost 50 changes in purchase tax and credit affecting electronic products since 1950 and these prevented the industry making long term plans.

The early 1970s were crucial. The government's stimulation increased consumer demand beyond the capability of domestic manufacturers to meet it. Demand was acute for colour televisions, the flag ship of the British elec-

tronics consumer industry. After many trials on colour television systems, the EEC chose the German system in 1967. By 1972-73 the production of sets in the United Kingdom had reached 2.5 million, but this was not enough to prevent importers capturing a large part of the new market.

The system adopted by Britain is called PAL, a system alternative to SECAM and the American NTSC. The German company has been able seriously to restrict imports into Europe of colour television sets that are larger than 20 inches and produced by a non-user of PAL.

Trading agreements on imported electronic products have been working reasonably well with Japan, Singapore, Taiwan and Korea, but BREMA has called for more control of other Far East countries which are "dumping" electronic goods to the British market, usually through other EEC countries. The trade deficit in 1978 of consumer electronic goods was £242m.

Manufacturers in the Far East have suffered from AEG Telefunken's restriction and they created a new market in portable small-screen colour televisions. Some of these manufacturers are poised to compete in the large-screen colour tele-

vision market in Europe. This could seriously affect the British and German manufacturers.

The stakes are high. Last year 475,000 colour sets of all sizes were imported into Europe and 200,000 were Japanese. The market is estimated to be 1.5 million sets a year.

With new products coming on to the market and the emphasis being on video home computers, in which colour television will play a prominent part, the market for all video products could be worth more than £1,000m a year in the United Kingdom.

The number of employees in the industry has dropped by more than 20,000 since 1973 because of competition and improved manufacturing and production techniques.

A patent agreement which gives limited protection to the colour television market failed to reduce this figure significantly. The patent arrangement will end when the patents expire in late 1982.

BREMA, which represents 16 of the important manufacturers in the United Kingdom, believes that Europe could not afford any delay. Electronics was a strategic industry, it said, and the member countries must act now.

Bill Johnstone

Call for more engineering apprentice training

By Kenneth Owen

Technology Editor

Shortages of engineering craftsmen are making it more difficult for the engineering industry to sell its products in world markets, according to Mr Geoffrey Chandler, director-general of the National Economic Development Office.

Writing in a foreword to an office report on engineering craftsmen published today, Mr Chandler said craftsmen leave the industry because of concern about career prospects, employment security, and narrowing pay differentials. But the problem was not insoluble.

The report concluded that apprenticeship training would continue to be the main source of new craftsmen. To prevent future skill shortages, companies should ensure their industrial relations machinery aided the rapid settlement of grievances, and that employee representatives received full information about company prospects.

Both managers and union representatives believed that schoolchildren received a distorted picture of the engineering industry. Liaison with schools and colleges should, therefore, be improved.

Effective use of the whole apprentice training period was

a priority, the report said. Apprentices should not be used as a short-term expedient to overcome production problems. Apprentice training should be developed in line with the skill requirements of changing technology.

There was great competition for craftsmen from companies outside as well as inside the engineering industry. Craftsmen tended to leave because their pay and other benefits had declined compared with those of other workers, and because of the uncertainty of engineering employment.

Companies were particularly concerned by the loss of craftsman aged between 20 and 35, the report noted. The office team which compiled the report recommended that companies should ensure their industrial relations machinery aided the rapid settlement of grievances, and that employee representatives received full information about company prospects.

* Focus on engineering craftsmen: studies of retention and utilization, published by NEDO, Steel House, Tothill Street, London, SW1, price £1.75.

Texaco's net earnings nearly doubled to \$60.5m and Standard Oil of Indiana increased profits

Exxon doubles quarterly profits to \$1,925m

From Frank Vogl

Washington, April 23

The Exxon Corporation, the world's largest private company, today reported a 101.6 per cent increase in its net income for the first three months of this year to \$1,925m (£851m).

The sharp increase in oil company profits when the United States inflation rate is running at more than 18 per cent may well spark a new round of political attacks on Exxon and its energy rivals.

Opinion polls show that most Americans blame the oil companies for the energy crisis and the high price of petrol. The new profit gains may well be seized upon by candidates in the Presidential election campaign.

The Shell Oil Company of the United States also announced a sharp rise in first quarter profits today, although less spectacular than that of Exxon. The company said at its Houston, Texas, head office that its net profit rose 67 per cent to \$37.3m.

Texaco's net earnings nearly doubled to \$60.5m and Standard Oil of Indiana increased profits

by 65 per cent to \$57.6m.

Exxon's profits in the current quarter will be directly boosted by a substantial payment from the British Government. The company explained that a new United States United Kingdom tax treaty will mean a refund of advance corporation tax paid in Britain of about \$1.5m.

Exxon said this refund would be significantly offset over the long way from the year of higher British petroleum revenues.

Exxon appeared almost apologetic about its profits. Mr C. G. Garcia, chairman, carefully tried to counter any possible political criticism.

"Care should be used when attempting to form judgments on the basis of the earnings estimates just announced," he said. "The results of any short-term period are not necessarily indicative of earnings over a full year."

Mr Garcia also sought to suggest that there may be a possibility that the company's profit in the current quarter will not be as good as that in the first quarter. He said the company had made a \$3.7m gain on exchange market gains in the first three months of this year.

If I were responsible for the

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Telephone service in the UK

From Mr Charles F. Hankel

Sir, I read with curiosity and interest the article about the proposed two-tier telephone service, and your communications supplement (April 15).

I had cause to visit the United States for an extended period last year. I rented an apartment in Houston, Texas, and was able to move in within a week of my arrival in that country. As anyone who has been to the United States can tell you, this is not remarkable, despite the fact that Houston's population is increasing by more than 1,500 each week.

My telephone service, installed within 24 hours, allowed me to make calls, by direct dialling, to any part of the world. I was able to divert my calls to other numbers. I was able to store the larger or more commonly used numbers and recall them by dialling a two-digit code.

I did not have to pay for local calls. I received a detailed list of all long-distance calls, showing the number dialled, the date, time, length and cost, including the name of the town I could use any telephone in the country, quote my name and telephone number, and have the call charged to my own number; this is rather a valuable facility when you are a long way from anywhere. I was billed every month, more conveniently than every quarter, and would pay less than the full amount, provided that it was settled within a short period of time.

Apart from this area, I was wondering if a similar situation exists in other parts of the country. Is this total ignorance of the purpose of a service industry merely a local phenomenon, or is it a national one?

CHARLES F. HANKEL

22 Farhams Crescent,

Horsham, West Sussex.

From Mr L. H. Magnus

Sir, There are half a dozen awaiting the installation of a telephone in this country, of whom have waiting for more than months. I have now been for eight months and been unable to establish my telephone will be installed.

Leaving aside my personal situation, I would like to make a choice of handset restricted to one of four types. If you're lucky, and you have to take whichever colour is available. The bill is sent quarterly, with little detail as possible.

If half a million potential customers are each denied a phone for an average of months, and taking an average of a quarter of a telephone bill, it can be calculated that Post Office is losing £100 million revenue every month, and perhaps £1.2 million a full year. Furthermore, revenue loss takes place in a background of blanket pricing demonstrating the stages of a telephone, so in terms of the cost of the equipment connected to it, it is absurd to mark at a time when there is chronic inability to install a basic telephone unit.

The worst thing, however, is that there will be no red

planning and the lack of responsibility point to the inadequacy ministerial and inadequate supervision.

Yours faithfully,

L. H. MAGNUS,
57 Woodstock Grove,
London, W12.

April 17.

Model tests on N Sea oil structures

From Mr Graham Whiting

Sir, With tragedies such as that recently seen in the Ekofisk oil field, many observations and opinions come forward from those connected with, and disassociated from, the field of oil exploration.

It is quite clear that any object with five legs, whether floating

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

The interest rate conundrum

Interest rates continue to fall, money that went into the dollar this spring now seems to be coming it almost as quickly. Markets have accustomed to exaggerated moves in both interest rates and exchange over recent years; and it can be that there was a degree of overkill States interest rates at around per cent level.

so, there is a big question mark over what next. If the deceleration in demand for credit is sustained in the States, then the conviction will grow a significant impact on underlying price pressures, and interest rates further and stay down.

It seems clear at the moment is that number of dollar investors are still prepared to take too much on trust in the United States finally getting in with inflation.

Circle

the price

case

face of it, yesterday's 4p fall in Blue share price to 312p looks justified, are less than 3 per cent up at £51.9m, despite a comparatively strong start year the outlook for home cement is dull.

Blue Circle has a great deal more or it that the figures suggest. Year's results have fallen victim both range rate movements, which clipped off the pretax total and the group's replacement cost depreciation. On a historical cost basis the 1979 figure would have been £26m higher than the corresponding 1978 figure, £21m

iving adroitly lifted its share of the Kingdom market two points to 61%, increasing deliveries almost 5 per cent is now set to reap the long-awaited 24 per cent price last month.

long as the downturn in demand in the final quarter is not too domestic profits will increase sub-

sequently, Blue Circle should reap the benefits of ambitious expansion programmes in Mexico, where production is expected to almost double in the year, South Africa and Chile.

While Blue Circle is keeping its open on a return bid for Armitage

the Monopolies Commission berated but the group is unlikely to be affected from plans to expand into areas by excitement overseas in the cement business.

a p/e ratio of under nine, which is less than seven on a historical basis the yield of 5.7 per cent is to deter long-term buyers given this year could be heading £80m.

BT

ent cost

tments

Accounts contain the first of what will be a multitude of small deviations—duly noted by the from accounting standards: in the English standard on deferred assets with the Dutch law, and the with its accountants' agreement, to conform with the latter. The principal interest in the report lies in the CCA adjusted where a sharp increase in the cost adjustment (reflecting principally, of higher oil prices) cuts the total from £469m. to £388m. (as a decline from £609m. to £606m. in figures). The group has evidently been running the volume of stocks (up from £1,702m. in value terms), and worst of the inflationary pressure in capital requirements coming in the Kingdom it looks as though the policies have been adopted here, the benefits of stock appreciation are relatively small last year, and the tax charge is relatively high 57 per cent of CCA profits).

Nevertheless, the dividend is 13 times covered by SSPA 16, which grants that the outlook is dull, at best, underlines the quality of the 8.2 per cent yield on the shares at 420p.

Delta

Adding

value

Delta Metal seems to get a new lease of life from rationalization about every five years. But it looks as though the latest bout, involving the immediate closure of the Brimsdown rolled copper plant and a more pronounced switch away from semi-manufactured to higher value-added products, will take longer to work through to profits, now that the United Kingdom trading outlook is finally showing signs of softening.

As it is demand stood up rather better in the second half than the group was anticipating at the half-way stage to leave pre-tax profits 7 per cent higher at £30.4m.

Within that the United Kingdom divisions managed to keep their contribution level pegging at £28.8m pre-interest despite the £5m cost of internal and external strikes, the volume decline in exports because of sterling's strength and the near one-third rise in copper prices.

It has been left to the overseas operations, where pre-interest profits jumped 76 per cent to £15.6m to keep pre-tax profits moving ahead.

Further down reduced stock relief has pushed up the tax charge 9 points to 36 per cent cutting the attributable profit by £1.1m to £18.4m while below the line extraordinary costs of £5.5m from the Brimsdown closure have cut retentions from £1m to only £4.4m.

All the same tighter control of working capital, which higher copper prices alone pushed up £5m, and the £7m increase in capital spending to £23m has kept the cash outflow down to £10.1m and despite the high interest gearing on the profit and loss account the debt/equity ratio has been kept at 50 per cent and borrowings have been put on a longer term basis.

Although uncovered on a CCA basis the dividend has been modestly raised to 8.6p a share gross where the yield at 64p, unchanged yesterday, is good even for the engineering sector at 43.3p per cent.

• There have been many innovations to lure money into Eurobonds but the latest, a plan by New York brokers, Drexel, Burnham, Lambert, for a gold-backed bond takes some beating. The idea is that interest and principal will be paid in gold—or equivalent price—and the bond will run for 12 to five years.

For the investor provided the borrower is a first class name, the advantage is equivalent of holding gold and getting interest on it. Moreover, it has some advantage over gold shares because of the political situation in South Africa, but perhaps even more attractive would be oil-backed bonds.

BSG International Borrowings have risen

Motor distributors occupy a godforsaken sector of the market at present. There are exceptions with single-figure yields, but BSG International is not one. Even after the 17 per cent cut in the 1979 dividend it yields 13.1 per cent at 214p.

Results for 1979 showed pretax profits of this, the largest of the Ford dealers, tumbling by two-fifths to £5.02m, though ironically it was only the strength of the motor distribution side; where pre-tax profits rose by 15 per cent to two-thirds of the group total, which stemmed the downturn.

The damage occurred in the manufacturing operations. Losses rose in France, profits fell in Germany and the United Kingdom. But trading conditions apart, the problem for BSG in 1980 is interest rates. Last year's rise in net debt from about 80 per cent to around 100 per cent of shareholders' funds pushed up interest charges by 57 per cent to £5.63m—more than the pretax figure.

Business Diary: Steptoe of Hackney • Flying lettuces

of Dartington, in who thought up consumers' Association, and the Brain among other things, is business. He has set as a kind of yesterday in Hackney, where he is scouring the streets London for burnt-out collapsed settees and items of the throwaway

test venture is in fact running workshop, in which will be collected wanted furniture and electrical appliances, hem to 20 of Hackney's unemployed to repair condition and then sell to the public.

workshop, called Brass has 20,000 square feet awaiting the cull from bidders' scrapheaps and is being helped extent of nearly £150,000 by Hackney council and consumer Services Com-

ologically desirable and need-creating project it self-sufficiency, rather than a profit, prove more lucrative profits would suppose.

tiny put-up, re from someone's skip, is on sale at £95, and fashionably battered up drawers at £70.

collections of raw are to be confined London, Lord Younger's customers for conditioned articles will come from better-heeled

the Baltic Exchange, the department City institution which of Trade it is simply a coincidence that each of the three chairmen of the Industrial Development Advisory Board have been merchant bankers and eminent ones at that.

Arthur Kirby who has been banging the gong on business for the past eight years.

Kirby rings the bell in mark the end of trading on the ele- gant marble floor of the ex-

change in St Mary Axe under the shadow of the towering Commerical Union building.

Like a number of his tendents before him, Kirby has completed a lengthy spell in the Baltic's splendidly baroque home. In this case, it is 50 years, like two of his predeces- sor (one previous superin- tendent did manage to notch up 62 years before retiring).

Kirby started life in the Baltic as a waiter before pro- gressing to his present position.

The bell he strikes comes from the wreck of the Ceres, which

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Economic notebook

Reforming zeal of the IMF

Proposals for reforming the world's money system are prone to collapse in the face of political difficulties. Those that survive the inevitable wrangling often do so only after long delays and substantial modifications. The reform will fall short of their original objectives, if indeed these are still relevant.

The International Monetary Fund's proposed substitution account is in danger of falling into one or other of these categories. It was dreamed up more than a year ago as a way of stabilizing currency markets, by pegging some of the world's unbacked dollars for the fund's paper money—the special drawing right.

Its supporters had hoped to obtain agreement for the plan at this week's meeting of the IMF interim committee in Hamburg. Much more flesh has been put on the bones of the idea since the last IMF meeting in September. But, few believe that agreement on the design and implementations of an account will be reached in the short term.

But there can be little doubt about the need in the longer term for a diversification of world reserves of dollars to assist the substitution account.

One reason for this is that the currency instability which bred the substitution account. Chief among this is the problem of recycling the oil exporters' huge surpluses.

Other preoccupations of the world's central bankers and finance ministers are the threatened American, and by implication, world recession, the high interest rates, and the impact of the European measures directed against Iran.

The dollar is no longer seen as endemicly weak and in desperate need of being relieved of its reserve role burden.

This is some support for this in official European circles, although they apparently want to link the attractiveness and liquidity of the new SDR claim to that of the old SDR. This would be unfortunate. The interest rate paid on SDRs is only 80 per cent of the weighted average interest rate in the basket of currencies making up the SDR. It thus starts off at a disadvantage in trying to attract investors.

It has been suggested that the development of a substitution account could be linked with recycling surplus oil money if the IMF is to lend the dollars it receives for SDRs to oil poor countries.

The claims of the account will be denominated in United States dollars while the fund's liabilities—those unloading some of their dollars will be in SDRs. Thus if the dollar's value falls in relation to the SDR the account's claims would no longer match their liabilities.

The Europeans seem to have decided that there should be regular checks to ensure that the capital base of the account is sufficient, and that if necessary more cash should be put in.

Although this may not be the route, there is an obvious need for an expansion in the fund's role in recycling oil money. It is hard to say whether the central bankers and finance ministers assembled in Hamburg will do more than worry about the prospect of several years of huge Opec surpluses.

The developing countries will be stressing their belief that the fund should ease the conditions which it attaches to loans and make more money available at lower interest rates to the poorer developing countries.

This request is likely to fall on deaf ears. But some officials in industrialized countries, for example Britain and West Germany, believe that the IMF should look at ways of quickly boosting the money it lends to oil deficit countries. One suggestion is that the fund should act as a mediator between the commercial banks who, it is generally thought, will not be able to cope alone with the recycling this time round, and the debtor countries.

In 1980, it is generally recognized, the recycling can be carried out without institutional change. But the problems facing the world's financial system thereafter are severe enough to demand radical solutions.

Unfortunately, as pointed out earlier, these are difficult if not impossible to get agreed in the large forum of the IMF, where there is no outside discipline. It is also likely that if and when the account is set up it will be much smaller than the \$50,000m or so hoped for by some.

It is undoubtedly true that the impact on the world's money system of large and persistent payments imbalances, because of high oil prices, is more important than the setting up of a substitution account. However, it would be a pity if the account were to be dragged

Caroline Atkinson

Companies on complicated investment and financing decisions will stand in good stead.

Mackworth-Young's City career has been notably successful. He is 53 now and joined Morgan Grenfell only four years ago after a distinguished period with stockbrokers Rowes & Pitman where he was widely regarded as the best broker in the City.

A well organized band of international secondary pickers are on the lookout for flying colours in the TUC, alerting all affiliated unions to a boycott of an American brand called Red Coach. Grown in California and Arizona by Bruce Church Inc.

The company is accused by the United Farmworkers of America of having used violence in attempting to break a strike over recognition and negotiating rights. Its lettuces are said to have been diverted to Europe in large numbers because of the boycott, argue the unions.

As yet the TUC does not know whether it will have to do without the help of Kent's own cat, the 18-year-old Tinky, who, according to the house magazine of the John Lewis Partnership, refuses to eat the stuff. My own dog Fricka is similarly discriminating and likes nothing so much as a lightly boiled egg.

• Wilhelm Umsonst, director of tourism and conferences at Frankfort, is spending £400,000 on a 12-day tour of Britain. His object is both to boost the growing British tourist traffic to this German business centre and to increase the city's share of the European conference market.

Malcolm Brown

If Saudi Arabia turned off the taps . . .

Saudi Arabia's decision yesterday to ask the British ambassador to leave could not have come at a worse time for international oil markets.

The implied threat which accompanied this request, the Saudi cabinet was said by the country's official press agency to have examined economic relations with Britain, especially the work of British firms in the kingdom—has been made all the more serious by the fact that all has been made of an oil embargo. But coming on top of the heightened tension and diplomatic activity over Iran, the Saudi Arabian action is bound to increase anxiety over oil supplies.

Britain itself should not be too badly hit even if the worst happened and Saudi Arabia refused to supply the 300,000 barrels a day to us which make up 26 per cent of United Kingdom imports and 16 per cent of overall requirements, and Iran ended all its exports to the West. Iran exports between 1.3 million and 1.6 million barrels a day.

The United Kingdom is now very close to net self-sufficiency with its own oil from the North Sea. Average production of about 1.6 million barrels a day compares with requirements of about 1.9 million barrels.

At present some 500,000 barrels a day are exported, but since the oil crisis created by the initial Iranian cutbacks last year action has been taken to limit the effect of any new production.

The British National Oil Corporation, which trades more than half of the oil produced through "participations" with the oil companies, has spread the renewal dates of its contracts. It is unlikely that the Saudi Arabs could suspend delivery of oil already in transit and by the time shortages from either Saudi Arabia or Iran, now a very small supplier to the United Kingdom, began to be felt, the BNC should have been able to direct more North Sea production to the home market.

Oil from other producers could also be diverted to the United Kingdom. The alteration in the pattern of trade might as well as was the case last year, create isolated shortages and make life uncomfortable, but damage to Britain would be limited.

If necessary, the loss of supplies would be sufficient for Britain to trigger the emergency mechanism of the International Energy Agency which would result in the implementation of a system of "rationing" on the basis of oil misery for all.

It is not, however, the effect that the Saudi Arabian action may have on world prices and on supplies to the rest of the world. It is the attitude of mind in Saudi Arabia which is far from friendly to the West.

Saudi Arabian leaders, including Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the oil minister, refer increasingly to the need to find a homeland for the Palestinians. Saudi Arabia remains in close contact with the United States for its failure, as its leaders see it, to link the "peace" between Israel and Egypt to the wider problem of the Palestinians.

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The developing countries will be stressing their belief that the fund should ease the conditions which it attaches to loans and make more money available at lower interest rates to the poorer developing countries.

While it has suited the Saudi Arabs to allow a consortium of American companies to continue to lift the bulk of the oil in the country, they have been much more successful in their dealings with the Shah in recent months. Backdating of price rises has been used to pinch at the Americans' profits and deals are increasingly being sought with companies outside the consortium who would join in industrial developments with the Saudi Arabian Government.

The relationship between the United States and Saudi Arabia is becoming more and more ambivalent. The Saudi Arabian leaders may simply wish to retain Britain on the knuckles for failing either to stop or to apologize for the recent events in the Middle East, forward sufficiently for it to be seen as compatible with the ideals of Islam.

If the leadership is losing

CJ 11/10/1980

NANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Tiddle East fears scotch attempt at rally

British Ambassador's arrival from Saudi Arabia question mark hanging over market yesterday. After attempts at a rally, the strong overnight move on Wall St soon led on lack of follow-through, and prices were left to move between narrow

limits displayed a firm despite the worsening situation in Iran, which was to keep the institutions on the sideline.

But, although dealers led about the lack of interest they were again kept on toes by another long list of company news and statements, too, were in a better inspired by the Wall St and the oil-sharing talks is yesterday.

It was the reports, which after confirmed that the Government had asked the Ambassador to withdraw from the negotiations, that finally put a stop on proceedings. Fears steadily grew that the might also decide to cut this led to a markdown of companies with interests over there. One is Tarmac which fell 10p

situation was also in the FT Index after opening 3.6 higher, closed only 0.9 ahead

It were little better in here after a firm start went a little stodgy on interest. Even the element of further cuts in US prime rates, Chase Manhattan 19 per cent, failed to much enthusiasm.

Days, early gains of £2 on reduced on the back audit request, so that by the most were showing range on the day. Shorts little better with some day business reported higher levels. But in the announcement by Manhattan by Manhattan and the left investors confused, it felt the best plan of

action was to take their profits and run. Nevertheless, prices were still showing gains of about 1% at the close.

Leading industrialists were most of their business had been completed by mid-morning, prices were generally firm.

The one exception was Unilever, which fell 6p following the chairman's annual report before recovering slightly to close 3p off at 420p.

That long-awaited takeover bid for coaches group George Everitt should arrive soon from T. Cawie, which has a 29.9 per cent stake, offering 60p a share. Ever called a halt to dealings yesterday at 49p. Chairman Mr Henry Everitt said: "I can't comment more than the announcement".

Dunlop, unchanged at 55p, again attracted Far Eastern inquiry ahead of the figures today, which are expected to be around the 22m to 22m mark. But jobbers reported that turnover was not as high as it had been recently.

The recent spate of price issues continued with further two, making three so far this week. Clifford's Dairies dipped 5p to 81p, after asking shareholders for £1.5m, and North British Properties was unchanged at 123p, after a similar request for £3m. Unitech, which also asked shareholders for £3m earlier in the week, recovered 8p to 30p.

Elsewhere, in electricals' shares of Austrad, making their debut, were well received and climbed 5p to 94p. Thorn-EMI attracted some support and improved 8p to 30p along with GEC 4p up at 377p.

Stores had a rough time after publication of the official offer document for Status Discount from MFI. This included a downward revision of the group's profits, which immedi-

ately wiped 10p from MFI's shares at 63p.

This in turn left a question mark over Status which left its shares 9p lower at 56p and pulled down the rest of the sector with it. A. G. Stanley, with figures out soon, tumbled

to 140p, as John Menzies rose by a similar amount to 236p following a set of full-year figures which were looked on favourably.

Full-year figures from Blue Circle were deemed to be below expectations, and its shares fell 4p to 32p. Others to follow suit include Amalgamated Metal, 2p off at 268p, B. S. G. International, 2p to 211p, Laporte Industries, 3p to 107p; Spear & Jackson, 4p to 100p and Wright Holdings 10p to 78p.

Favourable profits failed to stimulate Delta Metal, unchanged at 641p, but recent figures from Wilson (Commodity) were worth 5p at 210p, while S. Pearson put on another 10p at 214p. Wadkin also recovered some of the lost ground after its recent state-

ment climbing 7p to 83p.

On the takeover front, an agreed bid from Inchcape

14p to 70p, Harris Queenways

14p to 195p, while some excellent full-year figures cushioned B & Q Retail, 1p lower at 74p.

Also in stores, House of Fraser continued to draw speculative support, rising 4p

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FINANCIAL NEWS

B & Q (Retail) profits £400,000 ahead of forecast

By Our Financial Staff
B & Q (Retail), last June's
63 times oversubscribed issue,
has beaten its profits forecast
by over £400,000. Profits for
the year to January 26 rose
from £960,000 to £1,334m, a
turnover up from £14.2m to
£24.2m.

The company has matched
its improvement on the fore-
cast with an increase in the
dividend promised at the time
of the issue of 21 per cent to
make the total payment for the
year 2.86p gross.

The year saw selling space
in the company's DIY super-
stores increase from 394,500
square feet to 545,200 square
feet and a further 300,000
square feet is expected to be
added this year. Of an estimated
national total of 130
such stores, B & Q's figure is 34.

So far this year, stripping
out physical expansion and in-
flation, sales volume seems to
be ahead by 7 to 8 per cent,
supporting B & Q's view that
the market remains buoyant in

the face of the consumer
downturn.

B & Q reckons the physical
growth can continue at present
rates for at least two years. For
this period at least, the present
policy of buying sites, selling
them and leasing back will con-
tinue. A slowing of the expansion
could mark the beginning of
B & Q's move into freehold
property.

Yesterday's disappointments
in the discount furniture
retailers like MFI and Harris
Queensway have sent ripples
through the sector as a whole,
but B & Q points out furniture
sales represent less than 10
per cent of its total.

At 74p the shares are still
selling at a 14p premium to the
issue price. After a tax charge
of £752,000 against £109,000
last time, and after-for-sold
of £173,000, the earnings
per share come out at 8.06p
compared with 4.35p giving a
dividend cover of around 4 and
a price earnings ratio of 9.2.

The yield is 3.9 per cent.

NBP plans £3.1m rights issue

By Philip Robinson
North British Properties, in
its second year after the
planned break from Bellway
Holdings, is raising £3.1m via
a loan stock rights issue to
reduce borrowings on two pro-
jects due for completion within
a year.

About £3m has been
borrowed on the developments
—117,000 square feet of shopping
centre at The Postings,
Kirkcaldy, and 43,000 square
feet of office space at the
group's Newcastle head office,
the Regent Centre, which the
group intends to retain.

Completion of the shopping
centre is due this autumn and
the offices should be finished
by next spring. The directors
estimate that the two should
add at least £300,000 to the
group's annual rental income.

The 91 per cent convertible
loan stock 1996 will be issued
on the basis of £1 nominal for
every four ordinary shares
held. Conversion could take
place between 1983 and 1995 at

the rate of 68 ordinary shares
for every £100 of stock con-
verted. Taking the stock at par
would give a conversion price
of 147p a share. NBP's stock
market price closed last night
a shade easier at 132p.

NBP's largest shareholder,
Sun Life, with a 24.1 per cent
stake, will take up its rights in
full with £780,000 of nominal
stock and the remaining £2.46m
will be underwritten by Shep-
wards and Chase.

If all rights are taken up, it
would leave Sun Life with about
the same percentage of the
group.

North British Properties fore-
casts a pretax profit for the year
to the end of 1979 of at least
£1.4m against £1.1m last time
and says it intends to raise the
gross total dividend 12 per cent
to 4p with a 2.5p final.

Interim figures released with
the rights announcement yes-
terday show pretax profits 25
per cent higher at £616,000 on
a 36 per cent rise in investment
income at £892,600. The interim
dividend is unchanged at 1.42p.



Sir Harry Moore, chairman of Molins (left above), and Mr John Mills, managing director.

despite the engineering strike,
while sales inched ahead from
£102.5m to £111.2m. The profit
after tax was £8.22m.

In current cost terms, this
turned into £124m, against
10.9m, which means that the
group's 11.32p gross dividend
last year was valued 5.5m over

cost, or 15.5m and bring the
total retention for two years to
£35m, around 31m over cost.

Investment income for the
year to the end of last December
rose 30 per cent to £5.6m and
should receive a boost this
year as its empty offices space in

the United Kingdom is now
65 per cent let.

That empty space resulted in
a lower tax charge for the
group and produced post tax
profit up 65 per cent to £3.4m.

The final dividend is lifted 17
per cent to 5p gross with a
2.24p final.

Lolins strives to have at least
half the market in cigarette-
making machinery in its various
lines, besides a niche in paper
making plant. A new range of

cigarette machinery is shortly to
be unveiled.

That empty space resulted in
a lower tax charge for the
group and produced post tax
profit up 65 per cent to £3.4m.

The final dividend is lifted 17
per cent to 5p gross with a
2.24p final.

Lolins' activities are centred
mainly in the United Kingdom and
North America. Worldwide, factory sales of
GM cars and trucks were 2.03m
units, down about 18 per cent
from the record 2.47m units

in 1979.

GM's market share fell 1.2 per cent
from 1978.

Sales increased 7.4 per cent
to 3.75m units, up from 3.40m in

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Nuclear power

Greatest public disquiet and official vigilance

Controversy over nuclear power never seems to die. The fears connected with its development, and the knowledge that, however peaceful a modern power station appears, the process by which it is making electricity was first developed as an instrument of war bringing terrible destruction to property and human life, have ensured a level of public disquiet and official vigilance not seen elsewhere.

Faced with the need to make a political initiative to rekindle a dormant nuclear power industry to build the power stations which Department of Energy projections show will be necessary to meet Britain's energy needs to the year 2000 and beyond, Mr David Howell, the Secretary of State for Energy, told Parliament last December that it was intended to order 15,000 mW over the next 10 years, equivalent to the order of roughly one new power station a year.

The Government had been quite clear that, however much safety was emphasized, however cautious its approach appeared, there was the danger that a new programme of nuclear power could start a strong protest movement such as has been seen in the United States and in continental Europe, which could, possibly, lead to the enforced abandoning of the nuclear option.

That would be considered a disaster. It would be possible to meet Britain's energy needs to the year 2000 by importing coal and natural gas, by keeping old coal-fired stations in service for longer than intended, by improved conservation, and by slower depletion of North Sea oil, but the planners believe a policy without the nuclear option is a dangerous one. It leaves out an essential leg of the three-pronged attack of coal, conservation and nuclear power, which the Government believes is essential to be sure of not freezing in the dark.

This is to go ahead with the building of the recently sanctioned AGR stations at Heysham and Torness, but another in the top post.

Nicholas Hirst

decided to keep its nuclear programme as low key as possible. The number of nuclear power stations to be activated by the electricity authorities is about half. Nuclear Installations Inspectorate, which is estimated to be required in the Department of Energy's demand projections. Instead of an estimated growth in demand for electricity of between 1.7 and 2.3 per cent a year, the ordering programme is based on demand of less than 1 per cent to 1985 and only slightly more than that thereafter.

This caution is explained partly by the knowledge that after a decade of no orders the nuclear industry is in no fit shape to cope with much more, but also by the belief that demand is far more likely to undershoot than overshoot projections. In fact since the statement of the Central Electricity Generating Board has already downgraded its electricity demand forecasts for 1985 by 8 per cent.

The gentle approach of the medium-sized programme, verging on the low rather than the high side, has deflected any criticism that the Government is rushing headlong into a vastly expanded nuclear future, but controversy, nevertheless, is raging once more, spurred on by the decision of the newly-created Select Committee on Energy to take the nuclear programme as its first subject for study.

Committee members are concentrating their inquiries on reactor choice, the size of the programme itself and whether the nuclear industry is capable of building it.

In the course of their deliberations all the old questions have been raised. The argument over whether Britain should continue to build its own design of advanced gas-cooled reactors (AGR) or transfer to the American technology of the pressurized water reactor (PWR) is bound to take up a large section of their report. If the committee were to express strong doubts on the PWR it could change the course of the Government's strategy.

This is to go ahead with the building of the recently sanctioned AGR stations at Heysham and Torness, but another in the top post.

Nicholas Hirst

problems of conservation

contained in the invention alkane.

ordered should be a PWR based on the Westinghouse system. A licence is to be issued to allow a safety case to be put before the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate before a full-blown public inquiry is held.

Once it was established that a PWR could pass safety and site inquiries, the Central Electricity Generating Board would go ahead and order three or four further stations. Evidence has been given to the select committee, particularly by Sir Alan Correll, the former chief government scientist and one of the most eminent metallurgists in Britain, casting doubts on the safety of the pressure vessel in a PWR which contains the radioactive core.

His worry was that it was possible for a crack to develop undetected which could, without warning, result in a catastrophic failure. It would be possible, Sir Alan said, to run a PWR safely, but it would need a replacement of advanced detection techniques and if a crack were discovered, there would be problems in repairing it.

Dr Walter Marshall, the deputy chairman of the Atomic Energy Authority, also gave evidence to the committee, supporting the view that a PWR could be run perfectly safely. Dr Marshall believes that the differences between his view and Sir Alan's are of balance and nuance. The arguments are technical and complex and the committee is going to have a hard job deciding between them, but it is the same task which faces the Secretary of State, and, in a parliamentary democracy it is one which, ultimately, a layman must answer.

The key to sorting out the industry has come to be the choice of a new chairman for the National Nuclear Corporation, which is owned through a most complicated structure, by the component suppliers, such as NEI and Babcock, the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority and GEC. The choice has been made difficult by the refusal of any main component maker to accept a representative from another in the top post.

A direct attack on the problems of conservation

contained in the invention alkane.

Other options

Ingenuity directed towards finding fossil substitutes



An overshot waterwheel is installed on the Machynlleth site for demonstration purposes. With a low water flow of about 140 gallons a minute, it will develop a quarter horsepower at seven revolutions per minute. Do-it-yourself plans are available but experiments are still going on to improve its efficiency.

sources of fuel and aids to energy conservation were developed. This rider is even more remarkable in that the Royal Society and the Fellowship of Engineers who were hard pressed to select the three from many fascinating projects.

Any lingering doubts that alternative sources of renewable energy are available should be dispelled by this glimpse of the amount of ingenuity that is being directed to finding substitutes for dwindling fossil fuel resources. The programmes mentioned so far are at early stages, whereas other schemes in solar energy, wind and wave power, tidal barrages, and the manufacture of synthetic fuels and chemical feedstock from coal are far more advanced.

Another illustration of that form of energy conversion is the process by which the electric eel and the glowworm turn some of their food into novel types of power and light. The trick the scientists are trying to imitate is that of synthesizing the biochemicals of these living cells which control the conversion mechanism and provide the organic equivalent of chemical catalysts in existing fuel cells.

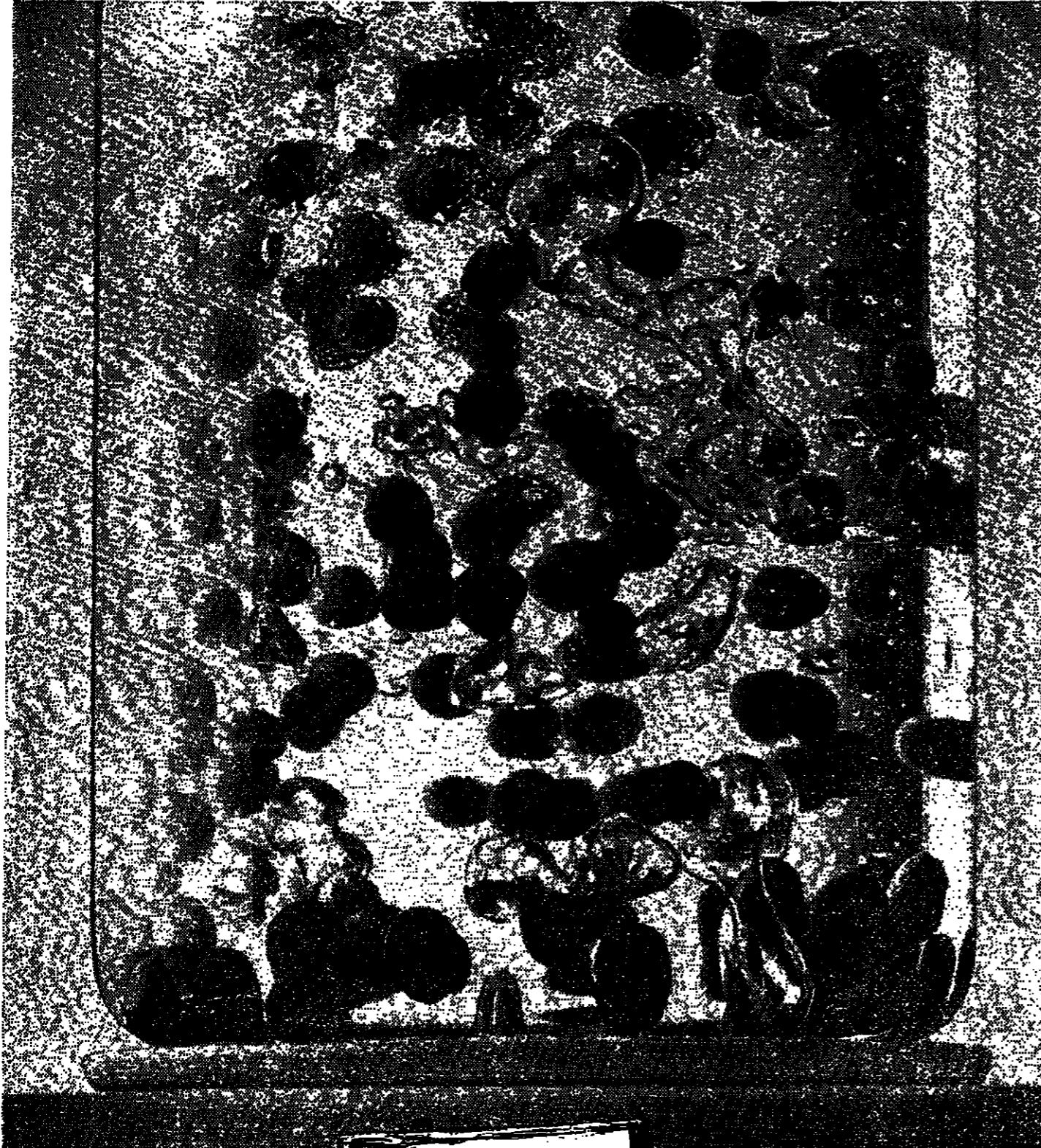
But the study of the biofuel cells appears to be the largest term of these three ideas in the energy prize competition because there are more fundamental questions of science to be answered than with the others, before a practical application can be foreseen in detail.

The submissions for new outcome a decision to con-

have been taken for granted. Vast

Pearce Wrig

The advantages of burning coal like your wife cooks peas.



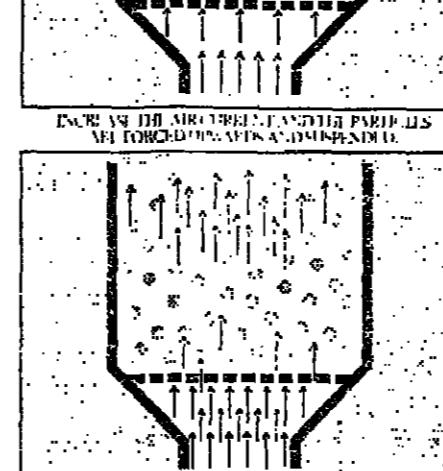
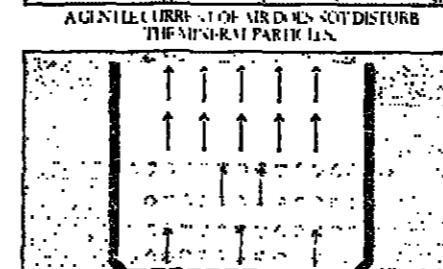
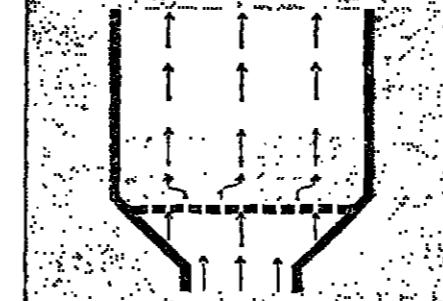
The simple principle of fluidised bed combustion.

Just imagine a red-hot bed of inert mineral matter like sand or ash.

Now pass an upward current of air through the bed - at a certain velocity the particles of sand or ash will become highly turbulent and 'boil' in a similar fashion to a liquid.

You now have a fluidised bed into which you can inject and burn coal.

Rather like your wife cooking peas.



It has the advantages of having no moving parts in the furnace, and high rates of heat transfer enable boiler sizes to be reduced.

Also, since combustion takes place at a relatively low temperature, a wide range of coals can be burnt efficiently.

On an environmental level, the characteristics of fluidised bed combustion keep the emission of sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxides well below the accepted standards.

Putting theory into practice.

Over the years, extensive development and experimental programmes have been carried out on fluidised bed combustion.

The resultant research and know-how means that Britain leads the way in this revolutionary technique.

Several plants already operate on a commercial basis in this country.

The tomato plant.

CWS of Marden, near Hereford, grow tomatoes. 98 acres of them are in glass. Half of their greenhouses are heated by a fluidised bed boiler.

The estate manager of CWS, Mr Rossiter, is more than pleased by way his new system nurtured his tomato seedlings through the ultra-severe conditions of 1978/79, but was impressed him most was the economic angle. Our expected bill for 1979/80 would have been £60,000 but with coal-fired fluidised bed we have estimated a saving of about £22,000 and that's a lot of tomatoes.

If you would like to know just how fluidised bed combustion can help you in your industry, get the advice of the NCB Technical Service experts by writing to the address below.

Send to: The National Coal Board Technical Service Branch, Marketing Department, Hobart House, Grosvenor Place, London SW1X 8AA.

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Telex _____

PERSONAL CHOICE

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am Open University : Infant cognition : 7.05 Gibson and the ruins of Rome : 7.30 Images of the working class. Closedown at 7.55. 9.06 For Schools, Colleges : History of war : confrontation : 9.37 Mathematics : 10.25 The Kids are Okav : 1 : 11.05 It's Maths : 11.30 Let's Look at Water : 12.45 pm News and weather. 1.00 Pebble Mill at One : includes Tony Billow's movie item. 1.45 Mr Bean : Ray Brooks tells the story of the canary man (r) : 2.00 You and Me : Pro-leading programme for the very young : Breakfast Time. 2.15 Schools, Colleges : Fresh Time : 2.40 Television Club (freshers' week) : 3.00 News : 3.35 Play School : Wilma Horbrugh's Play The Cake : 4.20 The All New Popeye Show : The world of the powerful matador and his skinny girl friend : 4.45 Graham's Farmyard : 5.00 The man in the fire : 5.05 John Craven's Newsround : 5.10 Blue Peter : The win-

ner is announced of the competition to design a mural for the cross-Channel ferry St Christopher. She joins the captain on the bridge during the inaugural crossing : 5.25 Captain Pugwash : The Plank (r). 5.40 News : with Richard Baker. 5.55 The Archers : 6.15 Three films by Renfield Bussey. Tonight he asks : Why are women so susceptible to changing fashion? 7.00 Tomorrow's World : Fighting Alaska's forest fires; printing with water; operating theatre safety. 7.25 Top of the Pops : Steve Wright presents this flashing and energetic music and dance television programme. His panel tonight consists of Dr J. Dickson Mahon, Lillian Archibald (Lluvya's EEC adviser), Professor Tessa Blackstone (formerly of the Royal College of Art) and Charles Fairbairn, Scotland's Solicitor-General. 9.00 Party Political Broadcast : On

BBC 2

6.40 am Open University : Maths : continuity : 7.05 Art and environment : 7.30 Waves. Closedown at 7.55. 11.00 Play School : Same as BBC1. 3.55 Closedown at 11.25. 3.10 pm Snooker : Third day of the Embassy World Professional Snooker Championship, in Sheffield. Graham Miles and John Virgo commentate. 4.00 Matchplay : Snooker and billiards. 4.30 Matchplay : Snooker and billiards. 4.45 Mr. Pro : 5.00 Matchplay : Snooker and billiards. 5.15 Matchplay : Snooker and billiards. 5.30 Matchplay : Snooker and billiards. 5.45 Matchplay : Snooker and billiards. 5.55 Matchplay : Snooker and billiards. 6.00 Matchplay : Snooker and billiards. 6.15 Matchplay : Snooker and billiards. 6.30 Matchplay : Snooker and billiards. 6.45 Matchplay : Snooker and billiards. 6.55 Matchplay : Snooker and billiards. 7.00 Matchplay : Snooker and billiards. 7.15 Matchplay : Snooker and billiards. 7.30 Matchplay : Snooker and billiards. 7.45 Matchplay : Snooker and billiards. 7.55 Matchplay : Snooker and billiards. 8.00 Matchplay : Snooker and billiards. 8.15 Matchplay : Snooker and billiards. 8.30 Matchplay : Snooker and billiards. 8.45 Matchplay : Snooker and billiards. 8.55 Matchplay : Snooker and billiards. 9.00 Party Political Broadcast : On

behalf of the Liberal Party. 9.10 News : with Richard Baker. 9.35 Play for Today : The Imitation Game : 9.45 The Man in the Fire : a woman who joins the captain with idealism fluttering from the mast. But the routine becomes deadly dull. With Harriet Walter 11.10 News headlines. 11.15 The Living World. 11.30 pm News. 10.05 Enterprise (r). 10.30 Daily Service. 10.45 The Children of Dynouth (11-14). 11.00 News. 11.15 The Queen's Time. The Robin Hood adventure and discussion programme. His panel tonight consists of Dr J. Dickson Mahon, Lillian Archibald (Lluvya's EEC adviser), Professor Tessa Blackstone (formerly of the Royal College of Art) and Charles Fairbairn, Scotland's Solicitor-General. 12.07 am Weather.

THAMES

9.30 am For Schools : Making a Living : 2 : 55 Look Around : (time) : 10.45 Look Around : (an abbey is restored) : 10.48 Experiment (A-level physics) : 11.05 Books (animal books) : 11.27 Seeing and Doing (river settlements and bridges) : 12.00 Picture Box (elephants) : 12.45 Games and Stories : 13.00 Kinnear tells William Steig's story about the amazing talking bone : 13.10 pm Stepping Stones : sounds and uses of water. 12.30 The Sullivan's tales of an Australian family : 1.00 News. 1.20 Thematics News. 1.30 Teacher : 1.45 Look Around : 2.00 Working dogs for Martha Finch and Lynne Webber. 2.00 After Noon Plus : Interview with Hollywood star Natalie Wood plus medical oasis bag, with Dr Richard Penney. 2.25 Racing from Epsom : We see the 2.30 Crown Two Apprentice Handicap Stakes, the 3.05

7.25 News : with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.

7.35 Five to One : The weird and wonderful pop singer Lene Lovich, subject of a recent BBC TV programme, is interviewed by the regular panel of five young people (see Personal Choice).

8.05 In the Making : Woodworker Paul Nicholas, who lives near Lechlade in Gloucestershire, is seen working on a clock.

8.15 Mr. Pro : His Dog : 8.30 Second heat in the BBC Television International Sheepdog Competition.

8.45 The Client : 5.40 Organization development : 6.00 The roaring 1920s. 6.30 Peat Harvester. 6.55 Snooker : More from the world championship in Sheffield. The Liberals. 9.10 A Question of Guilt : Part 2 of the frame of the day.

Princess Elizabeth Stake and the 3.35 Ladbrooke Sprint Handicaps. 3.45 Looks Familiar : Nostalgic show business quiz, chaired by Michael Aspel. 4.00 Books (children's and faces and tunes are Beryl Reid, Richard Waring and Jimmy Tarbuck. 4.15 Little House on the Prairie : A heavy burden of responsibility falls on a blind girl. 5.15 Gymnastics : The Daily Mirror Champions All : from Wembley Arena. 5.45 News. 6.00 Thematics News. 6.30 Help : Joan Shenton offers advice to the vulnerable. 6.45 Film : Doctor in Love (1960) : Romantic medical comedy, with Michael Caine, Virginia Madsen, Leslie Phillips and James Robertson Justice as the volcanic Sprat. 8.30 TV Eye : The micro-surgeons of Shanghai. Amazing film about severed bits of body that are put back again (see Personal Choice).

WAVELENGTHS : Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1069kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/695kHz and 98.91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 98.92s VHF. Radio 4 med wave 247m/1500kHz and 98.95 VHF. Greater London area only : med wave 730kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF. Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service : med wave 645kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

oria Fairbrother who plays the title role in the serial question of Guilt : Mary Blandy (BBC 2, 9.10).

nothing new under the sun? Maybe not. But I have a guilty in remembering the last time that I saw, just beyond off someone's foot, being jiggled to and fro by a teeter surgeon tugging at the dangling tendons. Minutes, the toes are being stitched to the fingerless stump of patient's hand. Not a spectacle, perhaps, for sensitive souls just upon after a heavy dinner, but typical of the sights which you will have to steel yourself if you watch tonight's ordinary edition of TV Eye (ITV, 8.30) which is about micro-surgeons of Shanghai. Toes that become fingers are part of the story. Factory workers' forearms, sliced off electric saws, are stitched back on again, too. It is all like being out of Frankenstein, except that these miracles of embly are achieved by far-from-sinister surgeons who, as they settle down to some sewing, don their white gowns, and turn-up in the hospital forecourt, with some electric jacks.

ter TV programmes which should prove worthy of your attention tonight are : Jack Pizsey's report for Man Alive (BBC 2 at 9.40; that incredibly garish singer Lene Lovich match ihre voice) being interrogated by the resident team of people in Five to One (BBC 2, 7.35); and the final f James Burke's investigations into what we used to call, but which, thanks to Mr Burke, we shall now have to other word for (BBC 1, 8.30).

ight's concert by the celebrated Boston Symphony Orchestra, under Seiji Ozawa (Radio 4, 7.30) is a recording given at last year's Edinburgh Festival. Just two—but what works! The Beethoven Symphony No 4 and its symphonic poem Ein Heldenleben... Capital Radio's Shaw plays gets off to an invigorating start with the master's most accessible works Arms and the Man skilfully reduced to one hour's playing time, and made by a uniformly excellent cast including John on (Bartsch), Pauline Colling (Raina), Barry Forster (as) and Una Stubbs (Louka). To be enjoyed, I am afraid, London area only.

THE SYMBOLS MEAN : *STEREO : *BLACK AND WHITE, PEAK.

PERSONAL

ON pages 27 and 30

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